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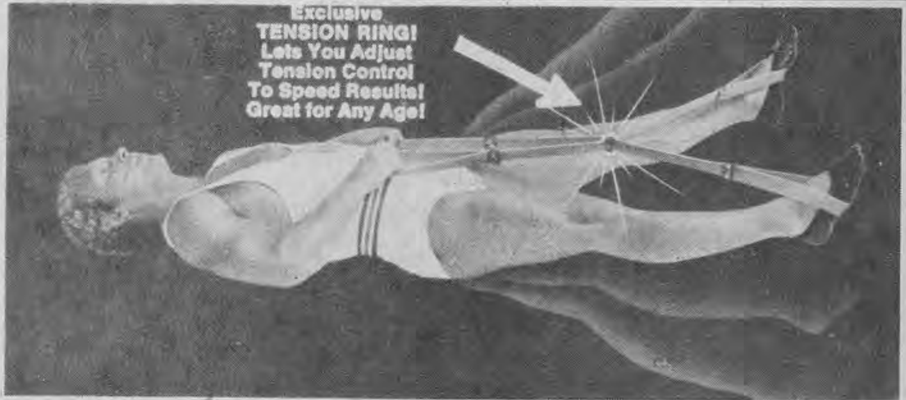

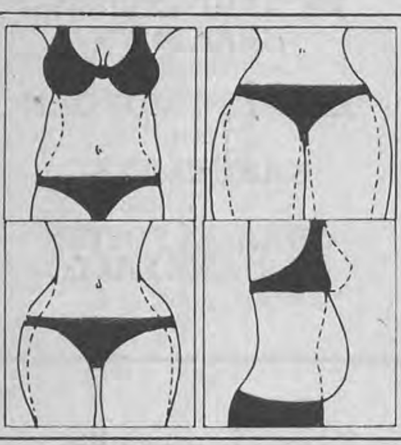

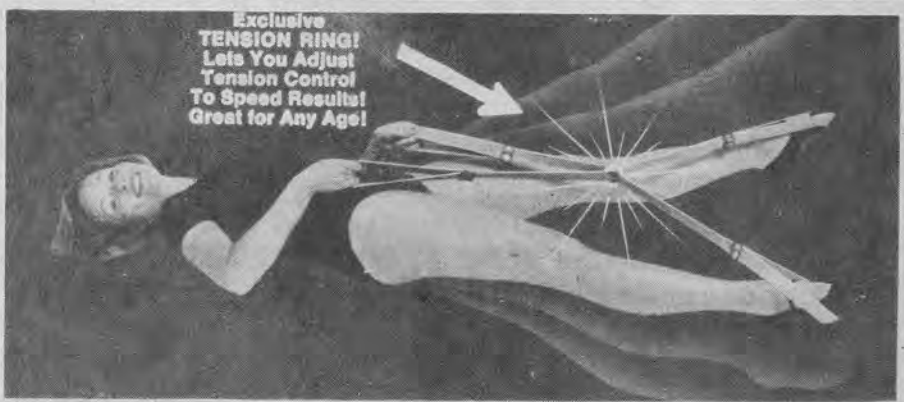

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The Wrestler

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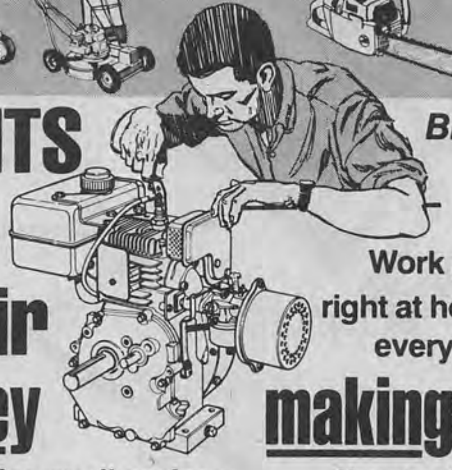

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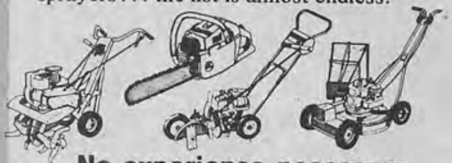

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YOUR LETTERS

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Kerry Von Erich holds up the NWA World title belt in his dressing room after defeating Ric Flair for the title in May. Reader Brian Trendle commends *The Wrestler's* coverage of the title match in our September 1984 issue.

SUPERB NWA COVERAGE

Superb!

That's the only word to describe your coverage of the spectacular NWA title match between Kerry Von Erich and Ric Flair on May 6 in Texas Stadium ("Kerry Von Erich Wins The NWA World Title: For David . . . For Texas . . . For Wrestling!").

I was there in the sweltering heat to witness that historic match, and I cheered along with 43,516 other fans as Kerry defeated Flair for the NWA World title. It was a great day for Kerry, and for all of Texas wrestling—for all of professional wrestling, for that matter.

I have always known that "The Modern-Day Warrior" would capture the NWA World title someday, and I'm happy and proud to have been a witness to the occasion. Kerry is truly one of the greatest wrestlers in the world today. And as sure as I was before that Kerry would win the World title, I am even more sure today that he will *regain* the title.

Bravo, Kerry Von Erich, for a spectacular and honorable title reign. And bravo to the staff of *The Wrestler* for the best coverage anywhere on this historic match.

Once again: superb!

BRIAN TRENDLE
Dallas

(Continued on page 49)

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WHAT'S HAPPENING!

By BILL APTER

Wrestling fans across the country who tuned in to Atlanta SuperStation WTBS on July 14 expecting to see **Gordon Solie** and their favorite Georgia stars received a big surprise.

Instead of seeing matches involving top NWA wrestlers such as **Ted DiBiase**, **Ronnie Garvin**, **Jake Roberts**, **Brad Armstrong**, and **Tim Horner**, viewers saw WWF television commentator **Vince McMahon** and WWF area competitors such as **George "The Animal" Steele**, **Tony Garea**, **Bobo Brazil**, **Brian Blair**, and **Terry Daniels**.

Viewers were angry and confused. In the days that followed, some 500 complaints were phoned in to the WTBS programming department.

Here at *The Wrestler,* we have received phone calls and letters asking for an explanation of what's going on at WTBS. Many of the people who have contacted us point out that they already see WWF wrestling on several television stations, and they simply don't want to see another WWF television show—particularly at the expense of Gordon Solie and company.

One angry fan, Bill Shriver of Buffalo, New York, wrote:

"I wish the WWF and their TV promoters would leave the outstanding wrestling programs alone, such as WTBS' Georgia wrestling with Gordon Solie, and Southwest Championship Wrestling [formerly on the USA Cable Network]. These programs would carry several matches a week that would sell out any arena and show them on TV. On WWF wrestling you seldom see two top contenders wrestle each other on television. In my area I see several hours of wrestling each weekend. There used to be a variety: Georgia, Toronto, WWF, Southwest—but recently the WWF took over the Southwest and WTBS Georgia wrestling time slots. Now all I get is a boring several hours of WWF wrestling. I've been a wrestling fan all my life, but recently have lost interest because of the WWF takeovers. Please give us back our Georgia and Southwest Championship wrestling!"

Indeed, a lot of fans have lost interest in WWF activities due to the oversaturation of WWF wrestlers on various cable television stations. But movements are being

(Continued on page 54)

Fans watching SuperStation WTBS had grown accustomed to seeing such men as Ted DiBiase and Brad Armstrong in action. Many were angered to see WWF wrestlers take over the show.

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Mark Youngblood leaps over a charging Don Kernodle. Youngblood and The Renegade were disqualified after a valiant effort to lift the NWA World tag team belts from Kernodle and Ivan Koloff.

Asheville, North Carolina *(Correspondent*—Brenda Medford): The NWA World tag team champions, Ivan Koloff and Don Kernodle successfully defended their belts against Mark Youngblood and the masked wrestler known as The Renegade.

There was more talk in the arena about the identity of The Renegade, however, than there was discussion of the match. Fans speculated that the masked wrestler is actually Mark's brother, Jay Youngblood, who had left the Mid-Atlantic region months ago after suffering a broken leg.

This match was a brutal affair that saw the fan favorites ignore the rules of wrestling almost completely in an attempt to wrest the World belts from Koloff and Kernodle.

The Renegade dragged Kernodle out of the ring and slammed his head into the ringside officials' table. He then grabbed one of the tag team belts and hit Kernodle with it, opening a huge gash on his forehead. Youngblood followed suit, throwing Koloff out of the ring. He rammed Koloff's head into the steel ringpost and then began to choke him on the ring ropes.

The challengers then switched places. Renegade sunk his teeth into Koloff's bleeding forehead and threw him into the ringside table. The referee finally restored some order to the match, threatening each wrestler with disqualification unless they returned to their corners.

Back in the ring, Youngblood whipped Kernodle into the ropes and floored him with a tomahawk chop. Koloff attempted to enter the ring to save his partner, but Renegade ran across the ring and chopped Koloff, sending him back outside the ring.

Youngblood tagged his partner, who came off the top turnbuckle with a vicious chop to Kernodle's extended right arm. Renegade scooped Kernodle up and dropped him throat-first along the top rope.

Koloff entered the ring to thwart The Renegade's offense. Renegade jumped on Koloff and began to choke him. Unable to pull Renegade off the Russian, the referee called for the bell and disqualified the challengers.

In other bouts, Tully Blanchard defeated Wahoo McDaniel . . . The Masked Outlaw defeated Angelo Mosca Jr. . . . Brett Hart defeated Ali Bey . . . Keith Larson

(Continued on page 56)

Could ANDREX-9000™ Be The Long Awaited

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(Left) Biopsy sample from laboratory experiments shows atrophied and weak follicles, incapable of producing hair. (Right) Biopsy sample from laboratory experiments shows rejuvenated, hair producing follicles.

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Scientific & Medical Documentation

These studies should be available at your local library. If not, ask your local physician.

(1) Orentreich, N. Medical treatment of baldness. Ann Plast Surg 1 116-118, 1978. (2) Rizer, R. L., Orentreich, N & Finch, C. E. Testosterone metabolism in human scalp and beard hair follicles. In *The First Human Hair Symposium*, edited by A. C. Brown, pp. 346-362. Medcom Press, 1974. (3) Mauvais-Jarvis, P, Kuttenn, F & Baudot, N. Inhibition of testosterone conversion to dihydrotestosterone in men treated percutaneously by progesterone. J. Clin Endochrinol Metab 38: 142-147. 1974.

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ANDREX-9000™ has **produced hair growth** and **continues** to **produce** a **thicker, fuller** head of **hair** for **thousands** of our satisfied customers across the country. But because of the many causes of baldness we can't truthfully tell you that ANDREX-9000™ is going to **work for everyone** who uses it (not even aspirin works for everybody). That is why ANDREX-9000™ is **fully guaranteed.** If for any reason you are not satisfied with the **results** generated by the direct application of ANDREX-9000,™ if you don't see the **growth of new hair** while the remaining hair on your scalp becomes thicker and stronger, if you don't see the balding or thinning areas of your scalp begin to **produce results in 4-6 weeks,** just return the empty bottle and your money will be refunded **promptly and without question.** You have absolutely nothing to lose. ORDER NOW! Don't put it off another day.

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THICKENS HAIR AS IT STIMULATES NEW GROWTH!

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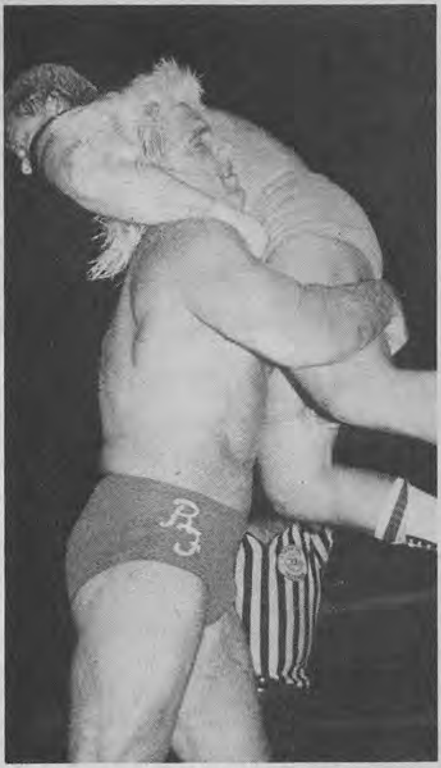
YOU ASKED US

Here's the monthly feature which YOU get to write! It's your chance to have a top wrestler answer YOUR question! Only the best questions will be answered—so put on your thinking caps and come up with some good ones! Address your questions—and who you would like to have answer them—to: YOU ASKED US, c/o THE WRESTLER, PO Box 48, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11571. Questions will be answered only in this column and at our discretion



Ric Flair, defending his NWA World title against Ronnie Garvin, describes his position as "climbing the highest mountain."

Paul Ellering didn't have to do this much thinking to come up with a response to Kevin Futh.

Q: "I'd like to ask Paul Ellering why he thinks he's so great. If you ask me, he's just a big muscle punk and my grandma could beat him."—Kevin Futh, Houma, LA

A: "A big muscle punk?" Ellering responded. "I can see that Kevin Futh—Futh? It sounds like the guy is lisping—well, I can see that Kevin Futh has quite a large vocubulary on which to draw. And as for your grandmother, I'm guessing that she has some sort of hormonal problem. I could recommend a number of physicians who might be of help."

***

Q: For Ric Flair: "What does it feel like to be number one? What does it feel like to look at the ratings and see your name on top? And what do you think of the people who fail to see how great you are? How do people get so ignorant?"—Kurt Pechinsky, Wayside, NJ

A: "*Whoo!* This is a fan who knows what he's talking about," Flair replied. "I'm gonna take the time right now from my busy schedule to answer each of Kurt's questions. First of all, it feels great to be number one. When I look at the ratings here in *The Wrestler* and see my name on top, I think about all it took to get where I am and it makes me feel like I've really accomplished something. It's like climbing the highest mountain. As far as the fools who don't appreciate what I've accomplished, I don't have the time to wonder why they're so ignorant. You just have to feel sorry for them. But you're not one of them, Kurt. You're lucky. You know the best when you see it. And I am the best."

***

Q: "I have a question for Brian Adidas: Are you going to come back to the World Class area and wrestle with the Von Erichs? We miss you here in Texas."—Amy Hazelwood, Lake Dallas, TX

A: "I miss being home, too," Adidas said. "I love Texas. I love looking up at that big sky and across to those long stretches of land. Be-

(Continued on page 58)

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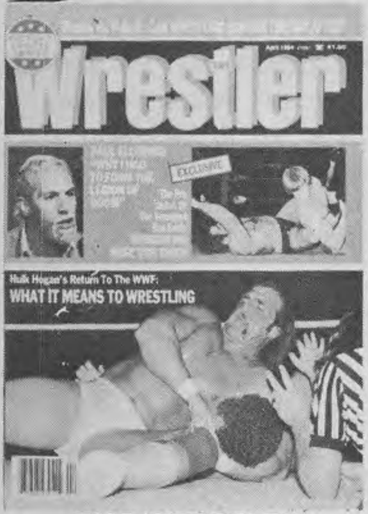

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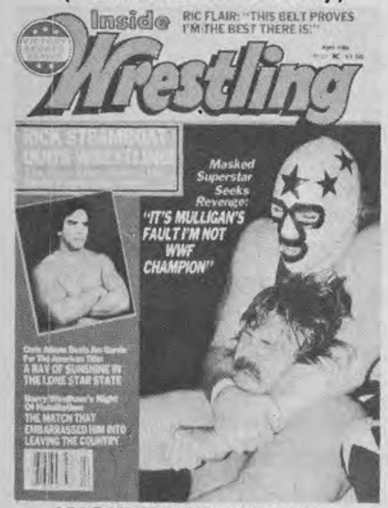

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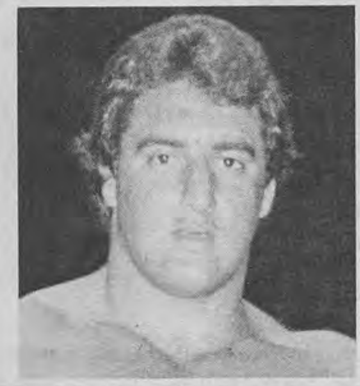
Thumbs Up

Each issue, *The Wrestler* will praise the noteworthy and damn those who violate the honor of wrestling. The praiseworthy receive a Thumbs Up, the disgraceful are marked with a Thumbs Down. Here is this month's roll of honor and shame.

Thumbs Up to Mr. Wrestling II: It's been said, "What goes around comes around," and happily, this applies to Mr. Wrestling II. Wrestling II was despised by the Mid-South fans for months after turning on Terry "Magnum T.A." Allen. It has become known, however, that II's actions toward T.A. were all part of the masked wrestler's plan to make T.A. the best wrestler he could be. In exclusive testimony in the November issue of *Inside Wrestling,* II explains the strange but effective method by which he made Terry Allen the North American champion. Although his actions were highly suspect at times, II has to be congratulated for accomplishing his task.

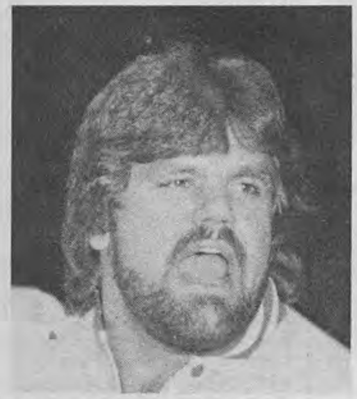


Thumbs Up to Scott McGhee: The up and down career of Shipley, England's favorite wrestler is once again on an upward trend. McGhee has defeated Superstar Billy Graham in Orlando, Florida, to win the Florida State heavyweight championship. In March of last year, McGhee had won the same title, but he had failed to repeat that success since then. Congratulations to McGhee. He has risen back to the top.

Thumbs Up to Crusher Blackwell: Blackwell is attempting to answer the pleas of the fans who hope that the 474-pounder can eliminate Bruiser Brody and Abdullah the Butcher from the AWA. Blackwell's former manager, Sheik Adnan Al-Kaissie, had ordered Brody and Abdullah to attack Blackwell after he won the St. Paul battle royal in June. Since then, Blackwell has signed contracts for any match he can get against either of the wrestlers. A great deal of blood will be shed before this feud is settled, and Blackwell should be commended for his courage in singlehandedly battling these two vicious men.

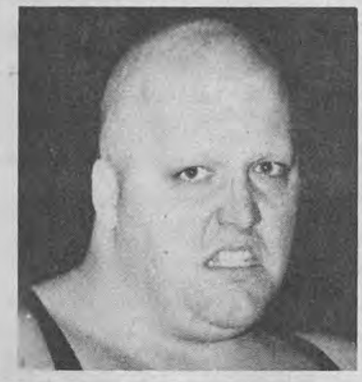
Thumbs Up to Tommy Rich: "Wildfire" has always been a man who enjoys taking chances, and this time one of those chances earned him one of the biggest payoffs of his career. Rich left a successful tag team partnership with Eddie Gilbert to challenge for both singles titles in the Mid-Southern area. Rich defeated Masao Ito to win the Mid-Southern International title, and seven days later, Rich defeated Rick Rude to win the Mid-Southern heavyweight belt.

Thumbs Down



Thumbs Down to Steve Williams: "Dr. Death" has turned rulebreaker, much to the chagrin of the Mid-South fans. After rescuing Terry Taylor from an attack by Krusher Khrushchev, Williams stole the Krusher's TV championship medal and wore the red, white, blue, and gold award proudly as a patriotic American. Taylor later won the TV title, but Williams refused to give him the medal. Now he says that Taylor must wrestle for a prize that he should already have. The fans' disappointment in Williams is indeed well-founded.

Thumbs Down to Billy Jack: Florida referees are having difficulties with the popular ex-Florida champion. It seems the officials having been having trouble convincing the wrestler to release his powerful full-nelson at the end of matches. It is possible that after cinching down on the hold that it is just not that easy to release it. If this is the case, the referees should be advised of the situation. If not, there is no reason for Billy to inflict any more damage upon his opponents than necessary.



Thumbs Down to King Kong Bundy: Bundy has signed a contract to wrestle for manager Jimmy Hart in the Mid-Southern region. Fans across the country who supported Bundy during his battles against Paul Ellering's "Legion of Doom" will be sad to learn that Bundy is once again wrestling as a rulebreaker. If there is anything to learn from this, it is that more often than not, wrestlers' attitudes don't change, only the situations in which they find themselves do.

Thumbs Down to Kamala: Fred Blassie has brought the Ugandan giant to the WWF area from the World Class Texas region, and the untamed beast's wild trek through professional wrestling continues. Kamala rarely uses a legal wrestling hold in the ring, and when he does it seems as if it is accidental. One cannot contest Kamala's success since he made his ring debut in 1982, but how can a man be proud of a winning streak so tainted by blatant rulebreaking? □

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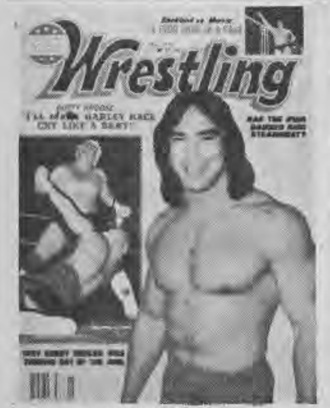
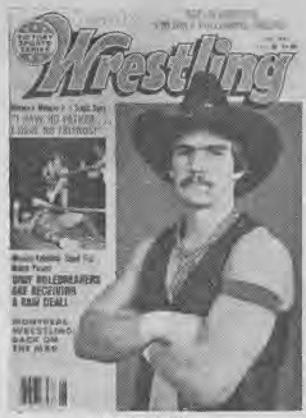


MAY 1979

April 1974/Stories include: Murdoch, Koloff, Sammartino, Strongbow.
July 1974/Stories include: Garea, Zbyszko, Heenan, Strongbow.
August 1974/Stories include: Sammartino, Sheik, Albano, Ladd.
September 1974/Stories include: Sammartino, Graham, Brooks, Bruiser.
November 1974/Stories include: Garvins, Mascaras, Sammartino, Graham.
April 1975/Stories include: Heenan, Grahams, Morales, Gagne.
June 1975/Stories include: Sammartino, Abdullah, LeDuc, Brisco.
August 1975/Stories include: Valentine, Garea, Rhodes, Sammartino.
September 1975/Stories include: Mascaras, Funk, Valiants, Gagne.
October 1975/Stories include: Graham, Strongbow, Andersons, Von Erich.
January 1976/Stories include: Andre, Flair, Ladd, Putski.
February 1976/Stories include: Andre, Strongbow, Lewin, Brazil.
March 1976/Stories include: Ladd, Funk, Sheik, Robinson.
April 1976/Stories include: Mascaras, Albano, Flair, Brisco.
June 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Bockwinkel, Flair, Mascaras.
August 1976/Stories include: Funks, Mascaras, Sammartino, Putski.
September 1976/Stories include: Andre, Funk, Hansen, Mascaras.
October 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Race, Johnson, Jones.
November 1976/Stories include: Mascaras, Wrestling II, Funk, Sammartino.
December 1976/Stories include: Stasiak, Rhodes, Bockwinkel, Orton.
January 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Brisco, Funk, Gagne.
February 1977/Stories include: Andre, Funk, Sammartino, Gagne.
May 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Putski, Sheik, Race.
July 1977/Stories include: Rhodes, Backlund, LeDuc, Patera.
August 1977/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Mascaras, Lawler.
September 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Mascaras, Brisco.
October 1977/Stories include: Andre, Rhodes, Backlund, Mulligan.
November 1977/Stories include: Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras, Gagne.
December 1977/Stories include: Andre, Mascaras, Johnson, Maivia.
February 1978/Stories include: Flair, Andre, Koloff, Johnson.
March 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Valentine, Backlund, Bockwinkel.
April 1978/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Steamboat, Bruiser.
May 1978/Stories include: Race, Putski, Von Erich, Andre.
August 1978/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Andre, Hansen.
October 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Rhodes, McDaniel.
November 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Backlund, Flair, Steamboat.
December 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Bravo.



JUNE 1982

January 1979/Stories include: Sammartino, Mulligan, Rhodes, Backlund.
February 1979/Stories include: Race, Sammartino, Steamboat, Ladd.
April 1979/Stories include: Andre, Flair, Backlund, Jones.
May 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Rhodes, Backlund, Heenan.
June 1979/Stories include: Rhodes, Superstar, Bockwinkel, Backlund.
July 1979/Stories include: Rhodes, Ladd, Valiant, Brower.
August 1979/Stories include: Flair, Garvin, Race, Sammartino.
September 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Mascaras, Strongbow, Garvin.
October 1979/Stories include: Rich, Rhodes, Backlund, Putski.
November 1979/Stories include: Snuka, Heenan, Race, Backlund.
February 1980/Stories include: Patera, Snuka, Santana, Albano.
March 1980/Stories include: Flair, Rich, Funk, Duncum.
April 1980/Stories include: Hogan, Rich, Backlund, Mascaras.
May 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Bockwinkel.
June 1980/Stories include: Putski, Andre, Hernandez, Keirn.
July 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Von Erich, Superstar, Blassie.
August 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Wrestling II, Baker, Koloff.
September 1980/Stories include: Mascaras, Rhodes, Ladd, Iron Sheik.
November 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Putski, Bockwinkel, Koloff.
January 1981/Stories include: Race, Snuka, Morales, Slater.
February 1981/Stories include: Backlund, DiBiase, Bravo, Anderson.
April 1981/Stories include: Albano, Sammartino Jr., Race, McGraw.
May 1981/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Von Erich, Backlund, Santana.
June 1981/Stories include: Rhodes, Hansen, Piper, Gagne.
September 1981/Stories include: Patera, Koloff, Khan, Junkyard Dog.
January 1982/Stories include: Flair, Hogan, Race, Humperdink.
February 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Flair, Steamboat, Rhodes.
March 1982/Stories include: Rich, Backlund, Idol, Spoiler.
April 1982/Stories include: Rhodes, Andre, Von Erich, Piper.
May 1982/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Hogan, Von Erich.
June 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Von Erich, Slaughter, Morales.
July 1982/Stories include: Hogan, Rhodes, Steamboat, Adonis.
August 1982/Stories include: Andre, Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Backlund.
September 1982/Stories include: Atlas, Piper, Lawler, Brody.
October 1982/Stories include: Rich, Andre, Piper, Dillon.
November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Von Erich, Slaughter.
December 1982/Stories include: Mulligan, Rich, Lawler, Grand Wizard.
February 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, DiBiase, Race.
March 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Graham, Johnson, Funk.
April 1983/Stories include: Snuka, Patera, Kabuki, Rich.
May 1983/Stories include: Rich, Snuka, Sullivan, Steamboat.
June 1983/Stories include: Studd, Garvin, Rogers, Orton.
July 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Freebirds, Rhodes, Youngblood.
August 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Garvin, Sullivan, Lawler.
September 1983/Stories include: Zbyszko, Piper, Andre, Hayes.
October 1983/Stories include: Wrestling II, Backlund, Junkyard Dog, Rhodes.
November 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Reed, Von Erich, Dillon.
December 1983/Stories include: Von Erich, Samoans, Valiant, Road Warriors.
January 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Rich, Superstar, Piper.
February 1984/Stories include: Abdullah, Sawyers, Valiant, Von Erich.
March 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Rich, Rhodes, Garvin.
April 1984/Stories include: Flair, Steamboat, Superstar, Windham.
May 1984/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Steamboat, Rotundo, Von Erich.
June 1984/Stories include: Flair, Slaughter, Cornette, DiBiase.
July 1984/Stories include: Valiant, Flair, Martel, Wrestling II.
August 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Magnum T.A., Idol, Spoiler.
September 1984/Stories include: Martel, Brody, Von Erich, Iron Sheik.
October 1984/Stories include: Billy Jack, Road Warriors, Steamboat, Piper.

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☐ OCT 76	☐ FEB 79	☐ MAY 81	☐ AUG 83	
☐ NOV 76	☐ APR 79	☐ JUNE 81	☐ SEPT 83	
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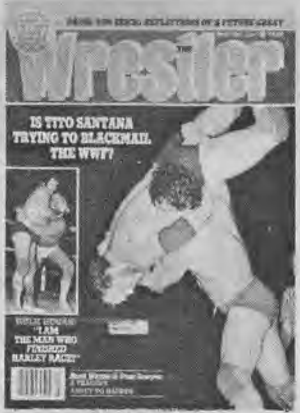

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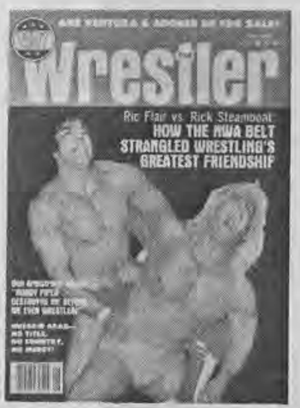

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INTRODUCING SCOTT ARMSTRONG

By Dyane Kirkland and Craig Peters

WHEN SCOTT ARMSTRONG made his wrestling debut in the summer of 1983, he began what he considers the toughest challenge of his life: living up to the Armstrong name.

"When I was really young, I mean like five or six years old," Scott said, "I used to watch my father wrestle. Sometimes it was on television, and sometimes it was at the arenas. It all left a very, very strong impression on me. Even at that age, I could see how my dad was pressing himself to the physical and mental limits. I didn't quite know what I was seeing, but I did sense it all. It wasn't until later on, in my early teens, that I really began to fully appreciate what my dad was doing out there."

Many fans will be surprised to know that Scott Armstrong, born on May 4, 1961, is Bob Armstrong's oldest son. Scott is one year older than "veteran" Brad Armstrong, who has held the NWA National heavyweight title twice in the last six months.

"I decided pretty early on that I wanted to be a professional wrestler," brother Brad says. "Well, earlier than Scott did. Scott wasn't too sure what he wanted to do with his life, though he's always been a heck of an athlete."

Scott had been interested in the possibility of pursuing a career in finance. He studied economics in Wheeler High School in Marietta, Georgia, where he also played varsity tennis for four years. In fact, he played well enough to win two offers of full scholarships to play tennis on the collegiate level.

Scott Armstrong's face shows the determination of a young man whose goal is establish his own identity as one of the top stars in the sport.

After 2½ years of college, Scott began considering a career in professional wrestling.

"It's kind of a cliche," Scott explains, "but it's absolutely true: Wrestling is in my blood. It was kind of a tough decision for me to make, what with Brad and Dad being so well-known and all. But Brad had developed his own reputation without having to rely on Dad, and I think I should be able to do the same thing before long."

While Scott's 160-pound frame was fine for tennis competition, it was far too small to be effective for wrestling in the pro ranks. Scott began a weight-training program to bulk up, while at the same time concentrating on maintaining his incredible speed and agility.

"When you play tennis," Scott explains, "you have to develop your speed and stamina, or else you might as well not play the game at all. When I started out training in wrestling with my dad and with Brad, I quickly realized that my experience in tennis would help me, simply by virtue of the speed and stamina I had developed."

Scott also worked with a martial arts instructor in Pensacola, Florida. This training added even more speed and endurance to his growing mastery of wrestling technique.

"Martial arts teaches you a kind of self-discipline that just isn't available anywhere else," Scott says. "It's a twofold approach to personal development. There's the physical aspects of the training, and there are the mental aspects. You can't have one without the other, and if you approach the training properly, you find that you're

(Continued on page 20)

Bob Armstrong has established himself as one of the greatest wrestlers in the sport today. Bob's son Brad has succeeded in stepping out of the shadow of his father's name to develop a respected reputation of his own. Now add another Armstrong to the list: Scott, who promises to live up to the high standards set by his famous father and brother. He knows it won't be easy

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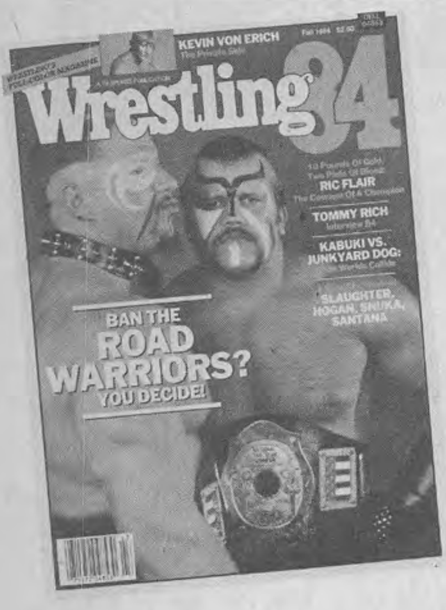

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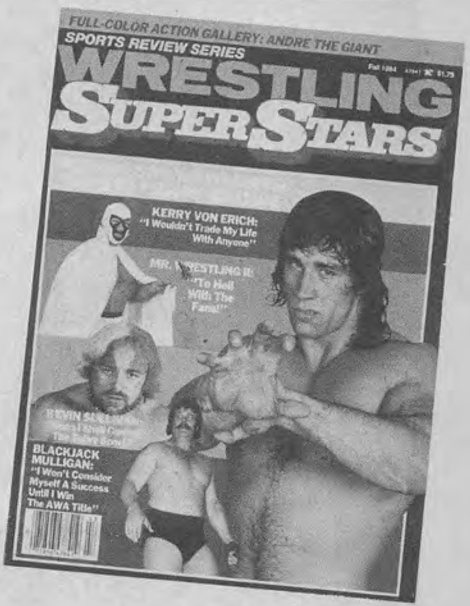

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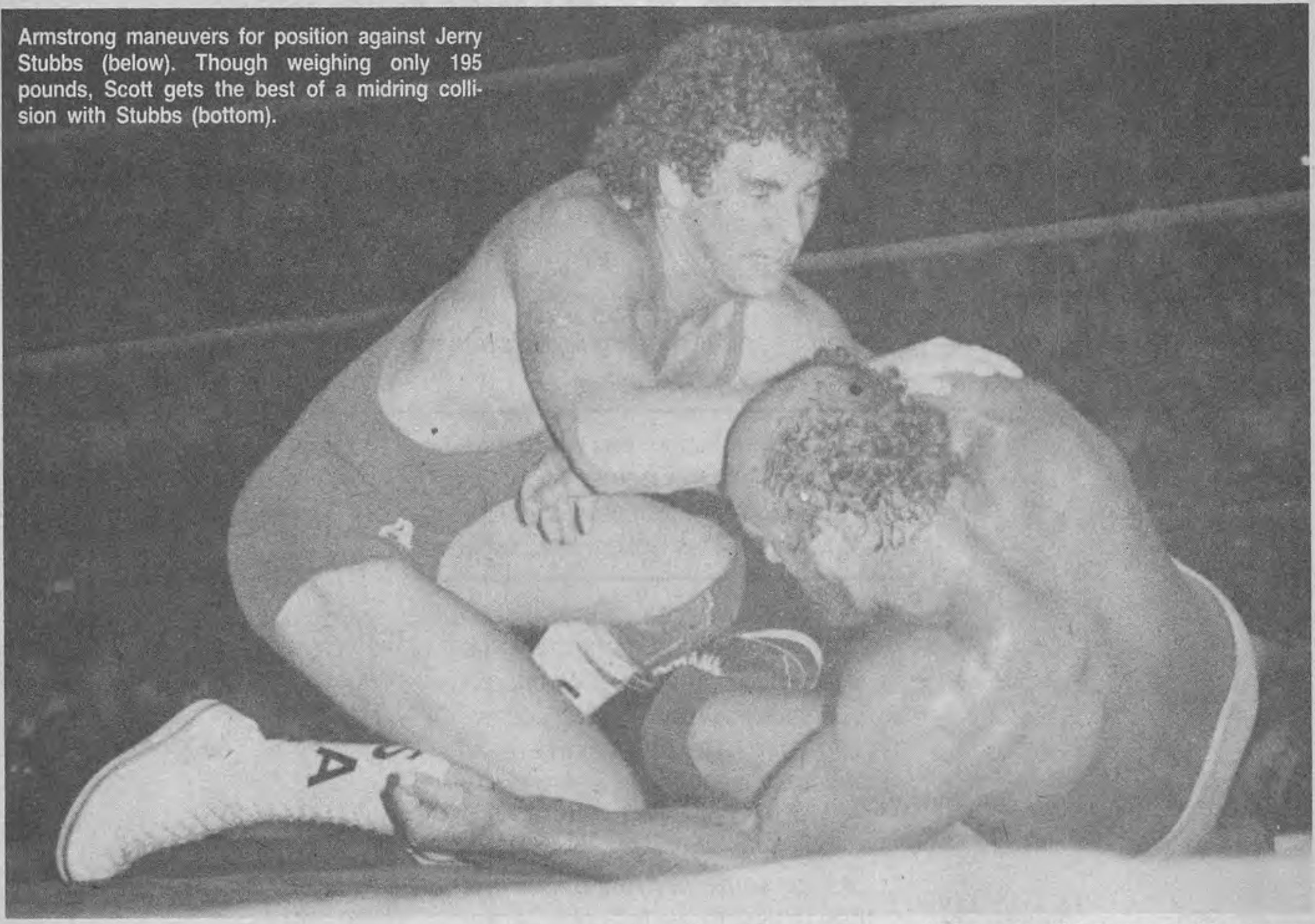

Armstrong maneuvers for position against Jerry Stubbs (below). Though weighing only 195 pounds, Scott gets the best of a midring collision with Stubbs (bottom).

developing both the physical and the mental skills on a parallel course."

Although still a junior heavyweight at 6'1", 195 pounds, Scott says that the results thus far have been more than ample repayment for the long hours he's spent in the gym.

"Dad and Brad were so supportive of me," Scott says. "There were a lot of times when they were right there in the gym with me, literally next to me, encouraging me to keep going, to keep working, and to push myself that much harder.

"Not only did they provide encouragement, but they offered advice on *how* to train, which is just as important as getting out there and training in the first place," Scott says. "If you're not training in the right way, you might as well not train at all. They were both great to me. And they helped me not only in the gym, but also on the wrestling mat. Between the two of them, they taught me so, so much.

In addition to the training and advice from his father and brother, Scott has enjoyed the benefits of working out with some of the country's best wrestlers. He especially credits Tommy Rogers with helping him polish his skills for his ring debut, and with good advice and encouragement ever since.

"Dad and Brad are tough acts to follow," Scott says. "I want to learn as much as I can, to be the best that I possibly can be. They're a tough act to follow, but they're great examples to be able to look up to!" □

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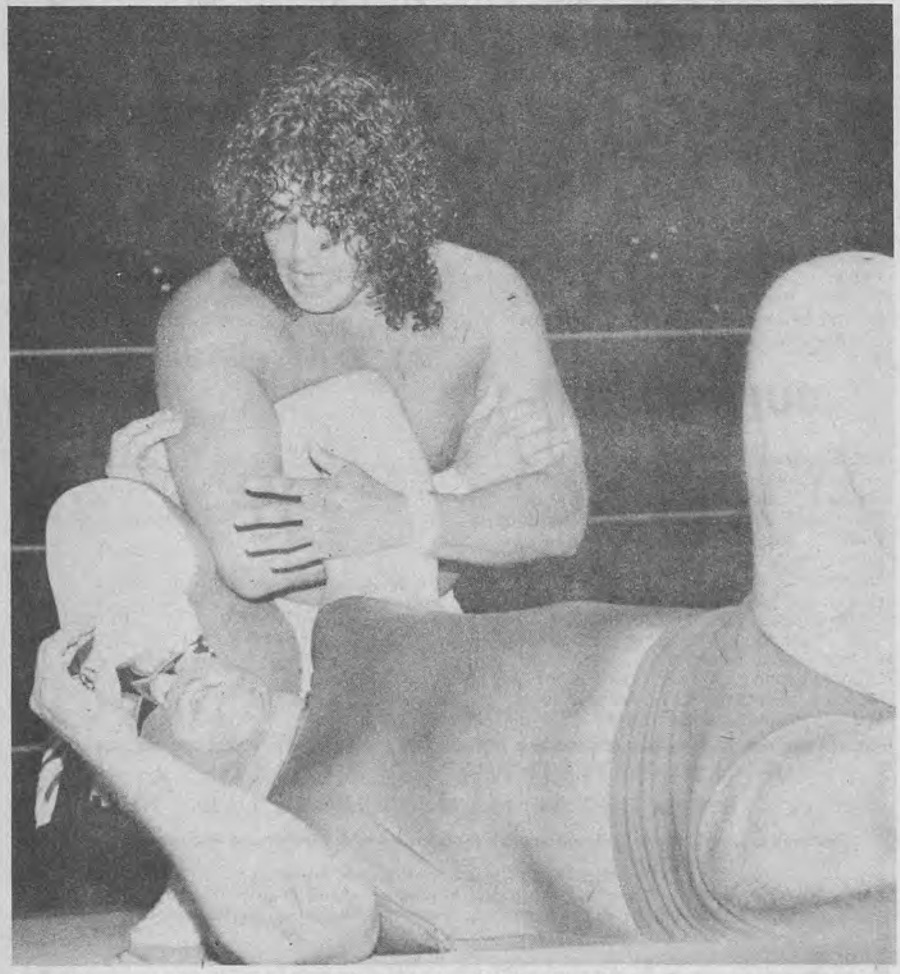


Mark Youngblood's armbar, expertly applied, stretches The Outlaw's shoulder almost to the point of separation.

Q: First, Mark, I want to ask you, as simply as possible, to explain to me and the fans, exactly what has happened to your brother.

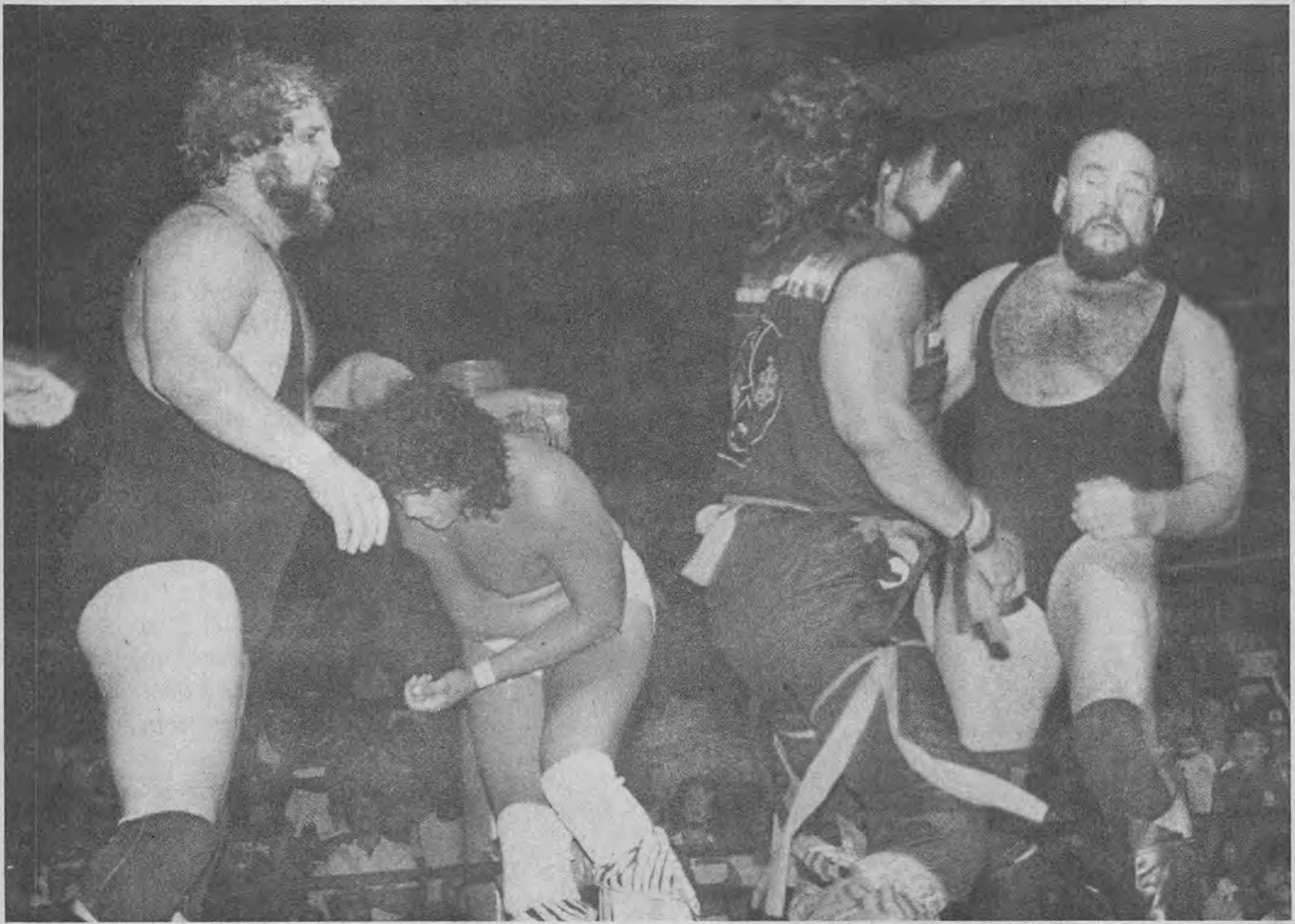
A: Before that, I have to say that I no longer have a brother named Jay. In his stead stands The Renegade. I must acknowledge and respect the ancient teachings and only refer to him as The Renegade.

Q: Agreed. I'll rephrase my question. What has brought The Renegade out in what used to be your brother Jay.

A: I'm going to try to explain this as simply as possible. Don Kernodle and Ivan Koloff broke Jay's leg. Jay went home to the reservation to heal and to think about where his career was going. He'd already gone through a great deal in 1984. First Ricky Steamboat announced his retirement. That left Jay without the partner he had won the World title with five different times. That was a big blow to Jay. I was anxious to see how he was gonna handle it. He dealt with it quietly, which has always been Jay's way. The quiet way isn't always the best way, though. He suppressed a lot of feelings while all that was going on, and I know why. Jay didn't feel he had a right to interfere in Rick's decisions. It's Rick's life, you know. Jay had no right to comment on anything Rick did with his life. Personally, when Rick decided to come out of retire-

MARK YOUNGBLOOD

Mark Youngblood used to wrestle alongside his brother Jay Youngblood. But there no longer is a wrestler named Jay Youngblood. All that remains is The Renegade. Mid-Atlantic fans were shocked when the older of the Youngblood brothers returned to the Mid-Atlantic as a masked wrestler with a new name. Some might say that Mark Youngblood would be the last person to offer an objective opinion concerning the seemingly bizarre circumstance surrounding the change in his brother. Interestingly, however, Mark offers a calm, rational, and objective analysis of his brother's transformation. Schooled in the teachings of the American Indian philosophies, Mark is one of only a few men who can provide the meaning behind his brother's new identity and appearance. In an interview with Assistant Editor Stephen Medwid, Mark recounted the series of events that led to this transformation in Jay, and discussed their current feud with NWA World tag team champions Don Kernodle and Ivan Koloff.



With Youngblood hurt and slumping on the ropes, The Renegade is on his own to battle NWA World tag team champions Ivan Koloff (right) and Don Kernodle.

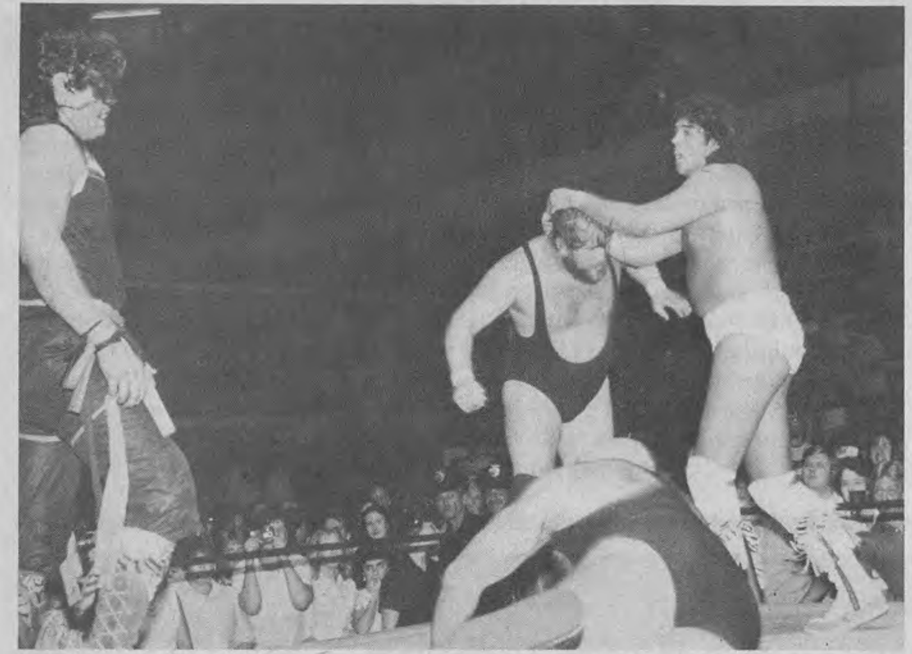
ment and wrestle in singles matches, I wouldn't have been too pleased. Jay just handled it, quietly, like he usually does.

Q: So is The Renegade Jay's alter ego?

A: Not exactly. The Renegade fights for what's right. He's not going to confront Rick Steamboat about breaking up the tag team, and he is not going to break Kernodle's and Koloff's legs. I'm not saying that Jay would do that if he had his way, either. It's an entirely different thing altogether. When Jay went home, he had a lot of time to think. He began to meditate, which is not as mystical as everyone makes it out to be. Meditation is just a deeper, more powerful form of thought. He thought about his injury and about the other recent occurrences in his career. He thought about his career as a whole. I can't explain what happened at this point.

Q: Why? Some religious reason?

A: No, it's not that, although I'm sure it's a very private thing and I



Mark Youngblood and Renegade communicate with each other (above), but not in the same way that Mark and Jay Youngblood did before the change. Mark and The Outlaw engage in a test of strength (below).

might not want to comment on it, anyway. The reason is because I have never experienced what transformed Jay into The Renegade. I couldn't begin to comprehend what brings about such a change. Anyway, the way I understand it, the body that used to house Jay Youngblood is now occupied by The Renegade.

Q: If it is a completely different person in there, why is The Renegade, like Jay, a professional wrestler?

A: **You can't think in terms of a "different person." Think higher, in spiritual terms. The Renegade has the same body as Jay and similar motor responses. If someone throws a punch at The Renegade, he will block it, just as Jay would. Taking that a step further, The Renegade seems to have acquired all of Jay's ring skills. But spiritually, he is The Renegade. There's a totally different mind occupying that body now. Don't worry about not being able to understand it all. I don't understand it all, and I probably know more about it than anyone else.**

Q: And what about the mask?

A: **Well, obviously the mask doesn't hide his identity, which is fine because The Renegade isn't hiding the fact that it's Jay Youngblood's face under the mask. Remember the Lone Ranger?**

Q: Yeah.

A: **The Lone Ranger could have been anyone. It could have been your next door neighbor fighting for truth and justice, and you would have never known it. I think the mask represents the fact that all of us can fight for truth and justice in our own way.**

Q: The Renegade chose to team with you because of your understanding of his situation, and because of your involvement with Don Kernodle and Ivan Koloff, am I right?

A: **I'm pretty sure about that.**

Q: To me, it doesn't seem like the communication between the two of you is . . .

A: **We communicate in the ring, but past that it gets a little sketchy.**

Q: Mark Youngblood and The Renegade have gotten closer to beating Kernodle and Koloff than Jay and Mark Youngblood did. Can you explain why?

A: **It would be really easy to say that the metamorphosis has everything to do with it, but I'm not really sure. I've been trying to figure out why, and I've decided that having someone other than Jay in the ring with me actually makes me a better wrestler.**

Mark has had to get used to the idea that his big brother, Jay, has been replaced on this earth by The Renegade.

Q: But it is Jay—at least it's Jay's body.

A: It's not Jay. Trust me. It's someone completely different. He doesn't act like the big brother. We wrestle as a team, but there's also something very independent about the way we wrestle. You can be overly critical of a brother. You can stick your nose in where it doesn't belong when it's your brother. That's not the case with us.

Q: How long will it be until you have the World tag team belts around your waists?

A: I'm hoping it's gonna be real soon. I'm working harder than I ever have in my life. I know they can be beat.

Q: Do you miss having your brother around?

A: It's a really strange feeling to see someone stand in front of you that looks just like your brother, but . . . but isn't your brother. That's not Jay Youngblood. Jay Youngblood would be telling me how to train or what to eat for dinner. He'd butt in like most older brothers do. I don't know if Jay will be back. I have to start getting used to The Renegade being around. He's a good wrestler, but he's not my brother. Sure I miss him. □

Wrestling 84

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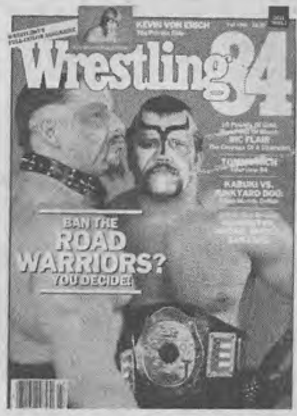

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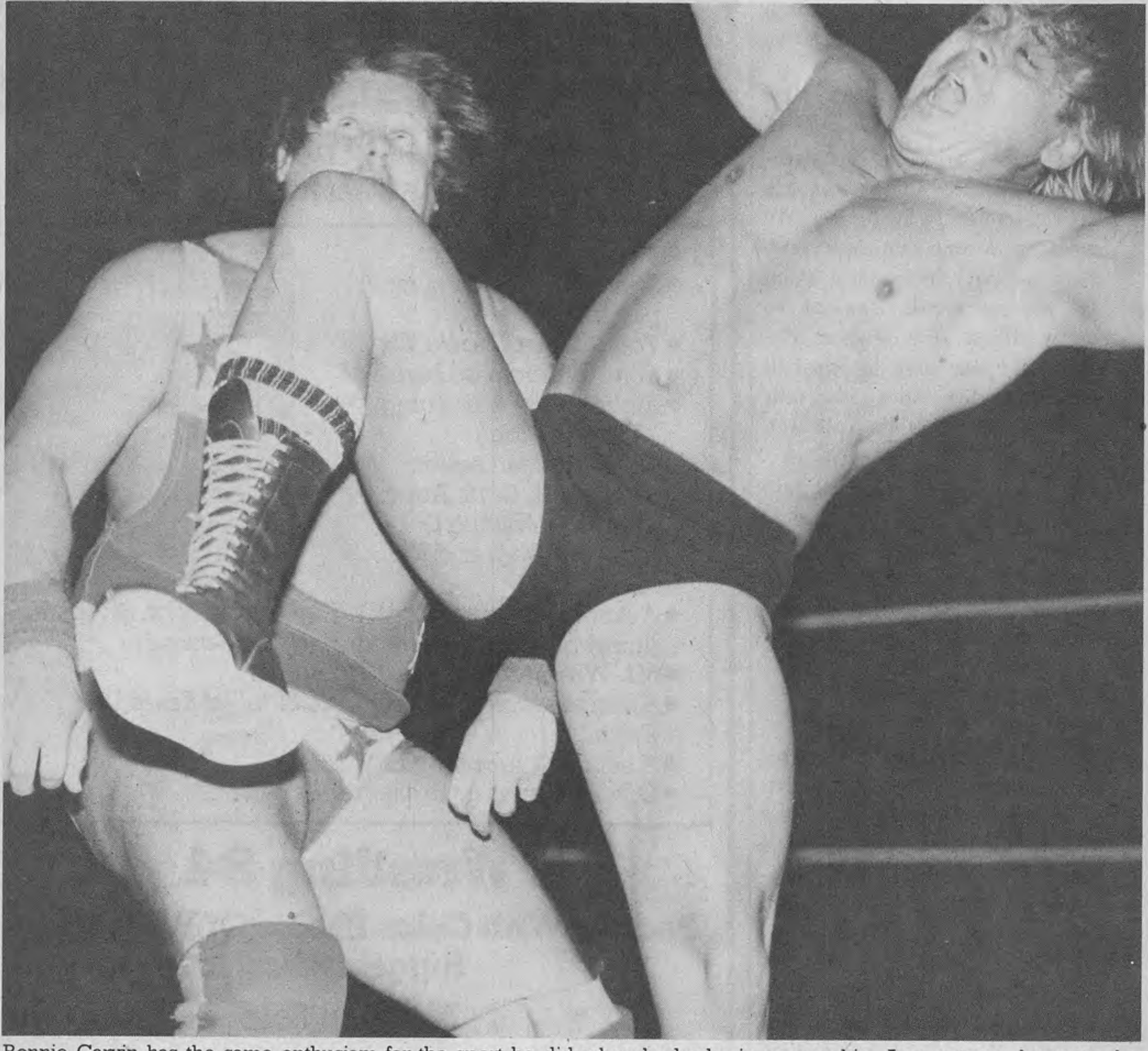
THE WRESTLER PANEL EXAMINES

RONNIE GARVIN

Each month THE WRESTLER'S panel of experts will offer their candid opinions of one of wrestling's stars. Whether an up-and- coming youngster or an established superstar in his own right, our panel will always be frank and honest without fear of reprisal

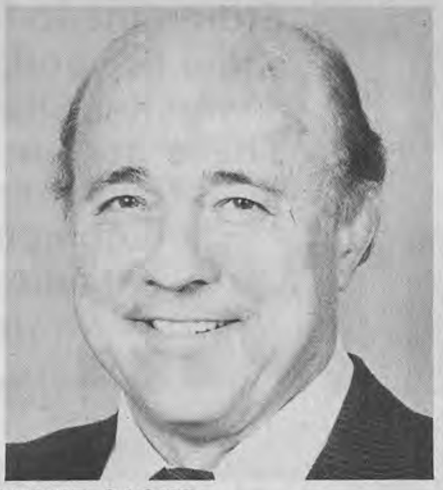


Ronnie Garvin has the same enthusiam for the sport he did when he broke in as a rookie. As a veteran, however, he knows how to channel his energy to his best advantage. Garvin has the ability to wrestle at a steady rhythm, lull his opponent into wrestling at the same pace, and then suddenly turn it on, catching his opponent off-guard. "The Man With the Hands of Stone" is truly an unheralded superstar.

BRUNO SAMMARTINO

"You have to appreciate Ronnie Garvin because he does what he has to do to get the job done. He has all the scientific moves down, and he can also slug it out with the best punchers in wrestling. He has a little bit of a temper, but it's just enough. He never goes overboard. Sometimes a little anger is just what you need in the ring. Too much, though, and you can lose control. The second that happens you've lost."

Bruno Sammartino is known as wrestling's "Living Legend." He is the most popular wrestler to ever hold the WWF title.



VERNE GAGNE

"I saw a match between Ronnie Garvin and Ric Flair and I was very impressed with Garvin. He came as close to beating Flair as anyone Flair's wrestled as champion. He earned my respect that night. He's a man who keeps himself in the best shape, and he's always learning something new to use in the ring. Garvin is truly a credit to the sport."

Verne Gagne held the AWA title a record 11 times. He was named "Best Scientific Wrestler" of the last 25 years.

GENE KINISKI

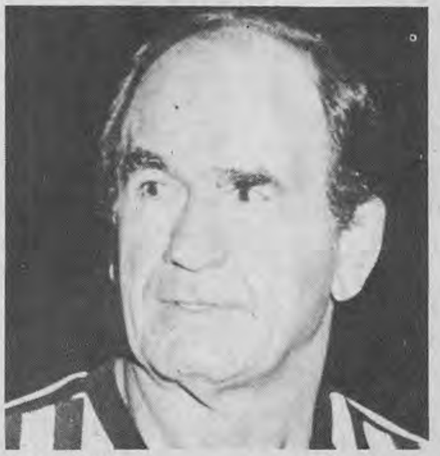
"This is a classic example of prejudice in wrestling. Ted DiBiase punches a guy during a match and he gets a warning from the referee and the fans boo him. But Ronnie Garvin throws a million rights and lefts during a match like he's Roberto Duran, and they call him 'Hands of Stone.' It's because Garvin kowtows to the fans that he gets all those illegal tactics past the referees."

Gene Kiniski is a rugged Canadian who was NWA World champion in the late 1960s.

BUDDY ROGERS

"Ronnie Garvin is a fine wrestler. He's also a very intelligent man. He knows when he has to pour it on. If Ronnie has to go to his fists, unlike other wrestlers, he's not afraid to. Sure, scientific wrestling is great, but you can't forget that these men are professionals, and if they don't win, they won't get anywhere in this sport. I think he's probably got the biggest punch in all of professional wrestling."

Buddy Rogers is the only man to hold both the NWA World title and the WWF title.



LOU THESZ

"What I would like to see is Ronnie depend less upon those fists, as talented as he is with them, and depend a little more on his scientific skills. Maybe he doesn't have the confidence in his scientific talent he should. Well, he should listen to a six-time world champion. You're good Ronnie. You don't need to punch it out with everyone. Have some faith in your skills and you'll succeed."

Lou Thesz held the NWA World title six times during his fabulous 50-year career. Many consider him the greatest all-round wrestler in history.

EDDIE GRAHAM

"I've heard a lot of good things about Ron Garvin recently. I heard he's given Ric Flair some of his toughest matches as champion, and Ric Flair is the top man. Garvin has always been tough. His intensity just never lets up, whether he's in the ring with a champion or a rookie. He has the concentration you need to win matches. A wrestler's physical characteristics are important, but his mental atti-

Eddie Graham is a former co-holder of the World tag team title, and was a top contender for the NWA World title for more than 20 years.

THE Wrestler SPOTLIGHTS...

From time to time, *The Wrestler* will shine its spotlight on an outstanding wrestler, manager, or tag team. These are unforgettable highlights of the sport's greatest stars, compiled by the largest staff of editors and photographers in wrestling journalism

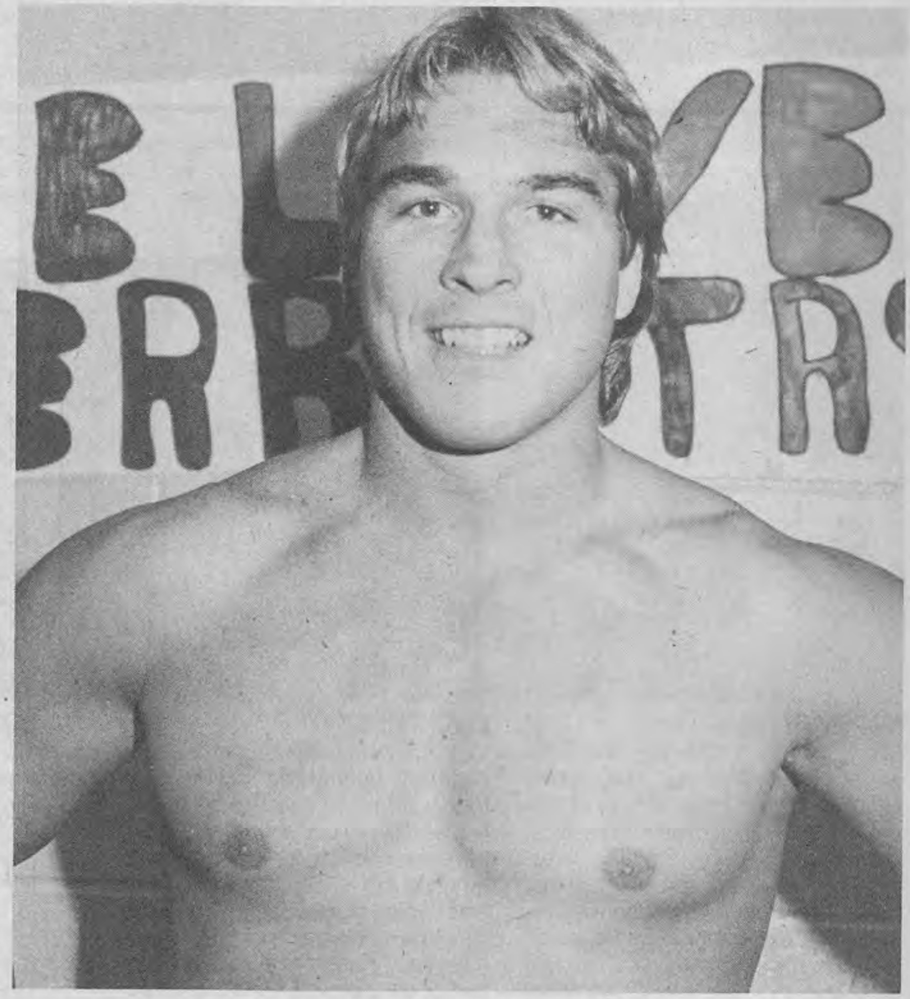
TERRY TAYLOR

BEFORE TERRY TAYLOR became a pro wrestler, he dreamed of winning a title and defending it all over the world. He never thought he would be spending so much of his time in the Mid-South area, defending his country from the rest of the world.

Terry, who stands 6'1" and weighs only 219 pounds, was almost singlehandedly responsible for turning back the threats of 345-pound Russian Nikolai Volkoff and 303-pound Russian sympathizer Krusher Khrushchev. The disparaging remarks these men made about the United States deeply affected the Vero Beach, Florida, native, and he was determined to do something about it.

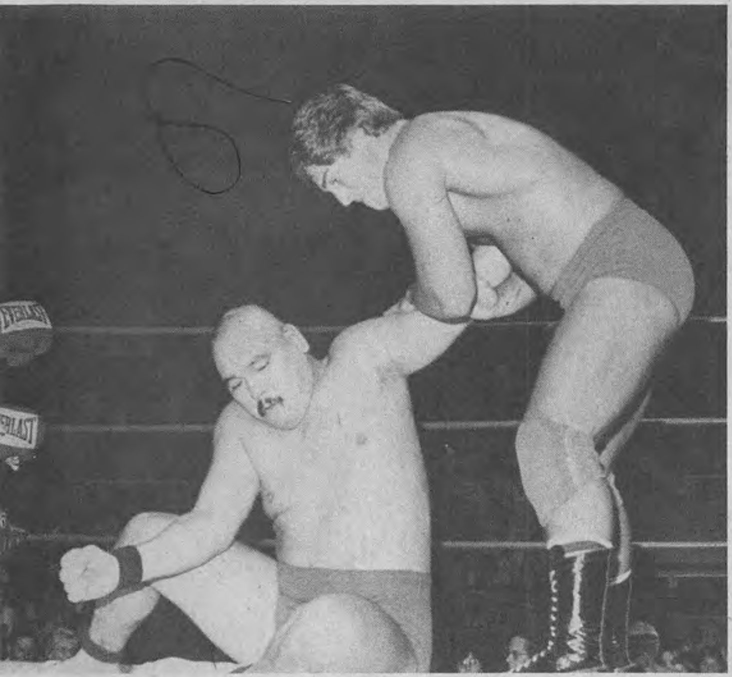
After those conflicts finally reached their conclusion, Taylor, defending his Mid-South TV title, became embroiled in a feud with 300-pound former USFL football star Steve "Dr. Death" Williams.

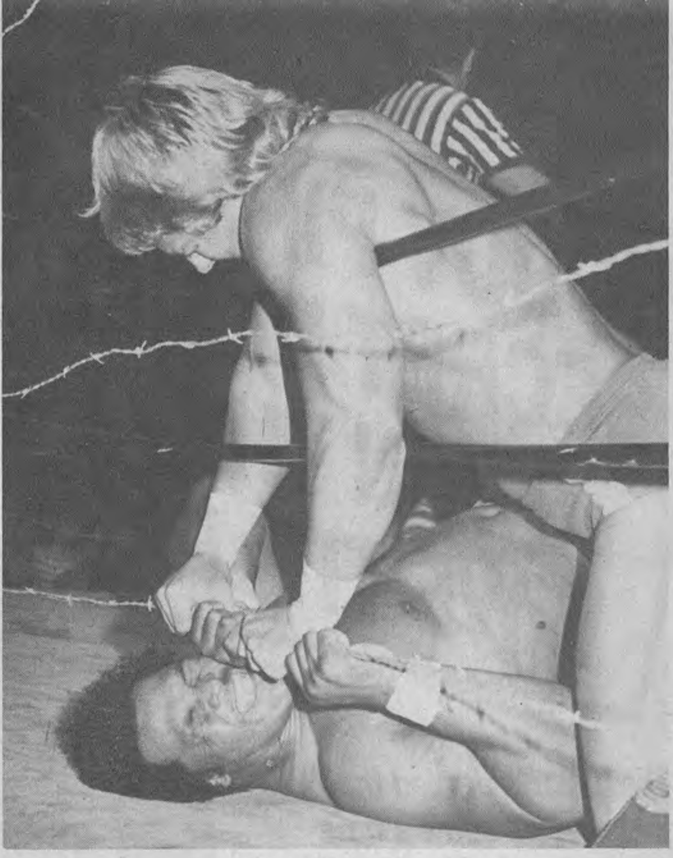
Taylor attributes his ring excellence to his total sports training and his firm grasp of the basics of wrestling. He played football, basketball, and baseball as a teenager, and wrestled in high school and college.



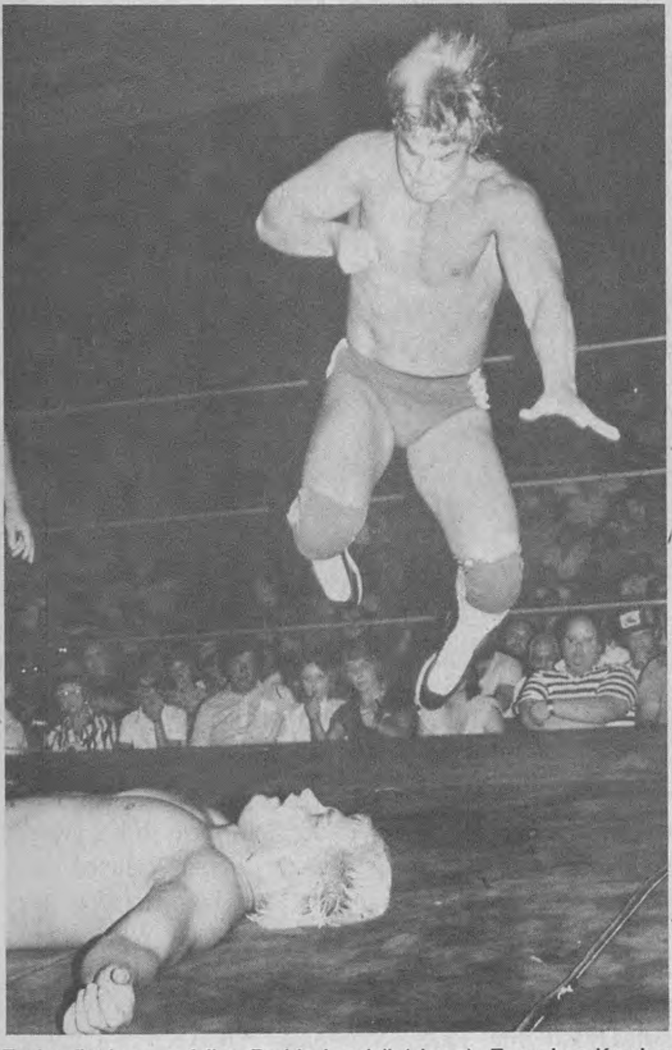
His travels in the pro ranks have taken him from Florida (where he made the transition from amateur wrestling under Eddie Graham's tutelage), to Georgia, to the Mid-Southern region, to the Mid-Atlantic area, and finally the Mid-South.

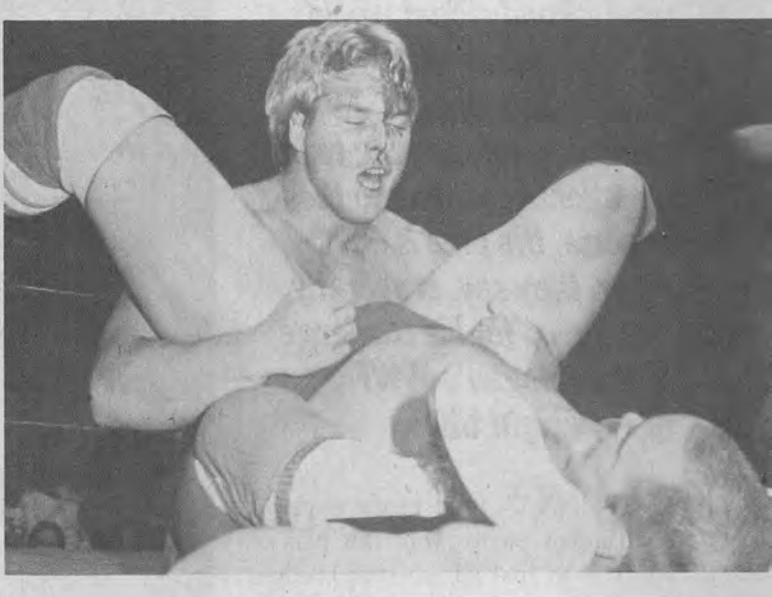
Taylor recklessly throws himself into opponents who often outweigh him by 100 pounds or more. But a disproportionate part of his 219 pounds is made up of heart. Few men in wrestling possess the courage and determination of Terry Taylor.

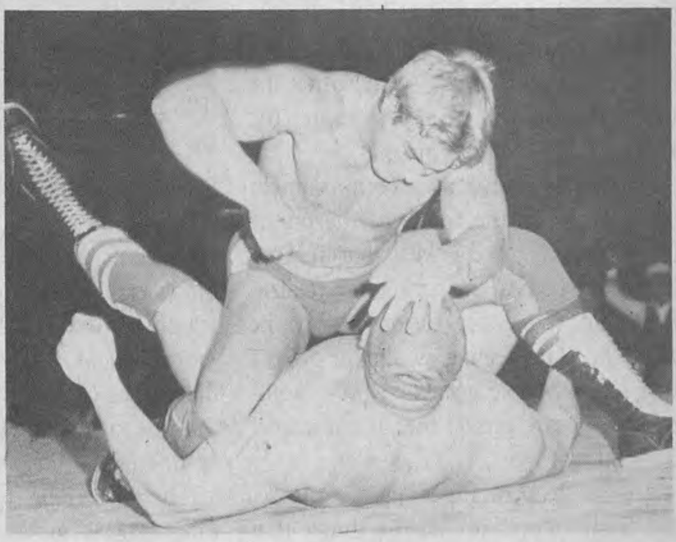




If Taylor can get a big man like Killer Khan down to the mat (above), his size disadvantage doesn't mean as much. Barbed wire matches, such as this one against Butch Reed (right), are not to Terry's liking.



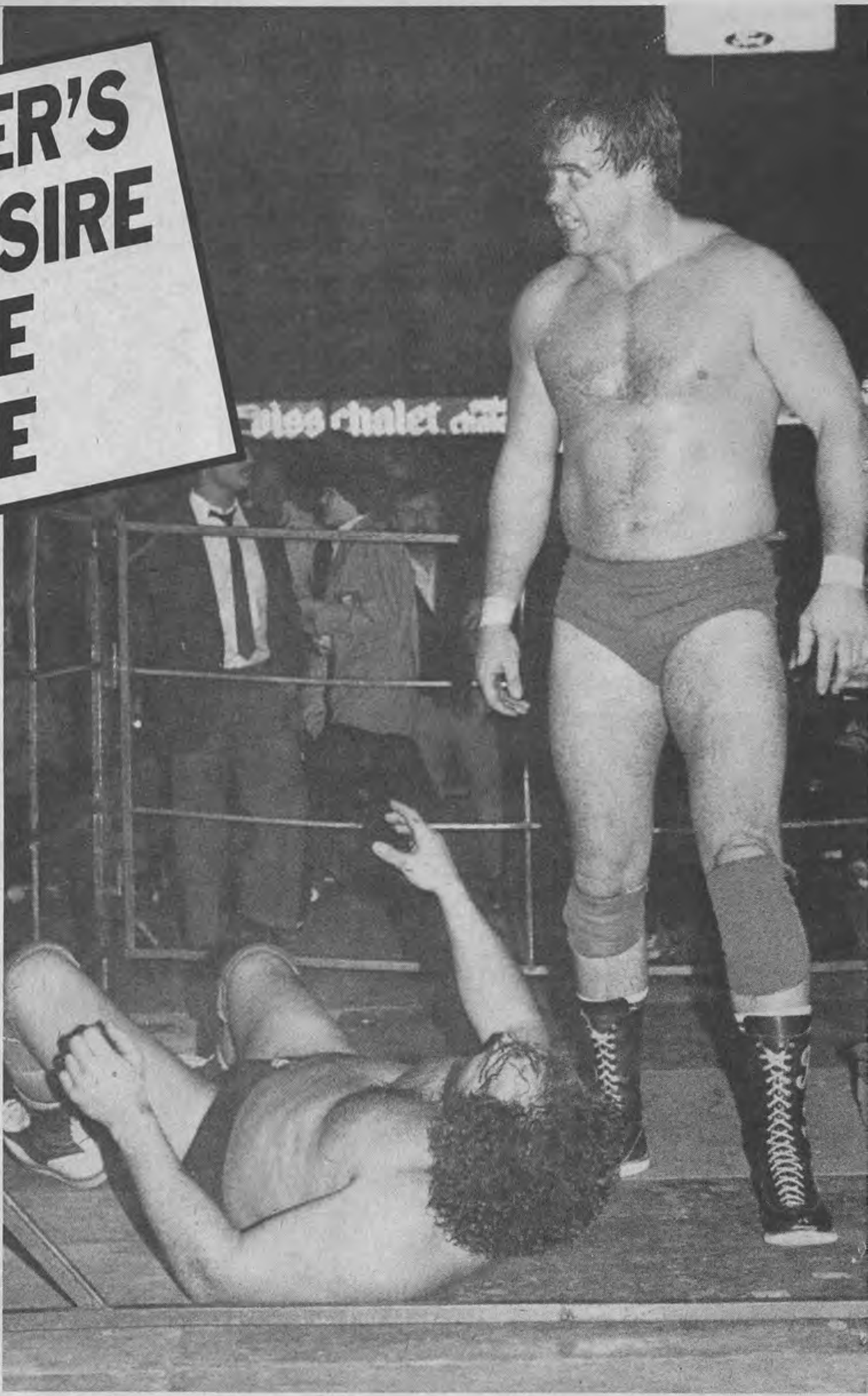




Taylor fistdrops a fallen Buddy Landell (above). Terry has Krusher Khrushchev's shoulders pinned after a sunset flip (top right). Taylor throws a series of chopping rights at the side of Nikolai Volkoff's head (right).

Photos by David Fitzgerald

RODDY PIPER'S SECRET DESIRE TO WIN THE WWF TITLE



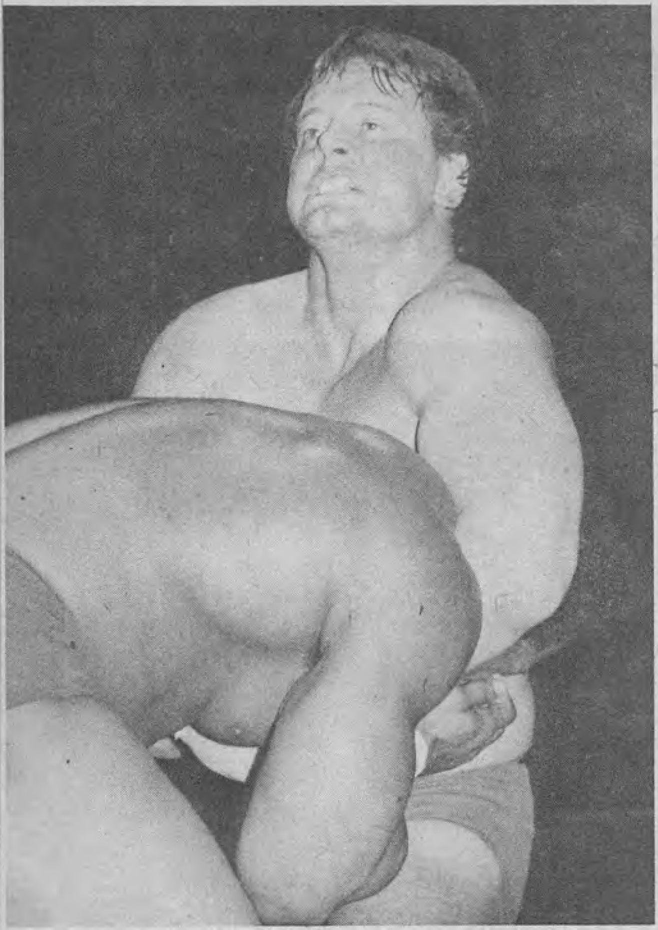
The experts agreed that there would come a time where Roddy Piper would become dissatisfied with his position as manager, TV commentator, and tag team wrestler. According to those experts, the time is now. Piper, they say, is secretly gearing up for his challenge of Hulk Hogan's WWF heavyweight title

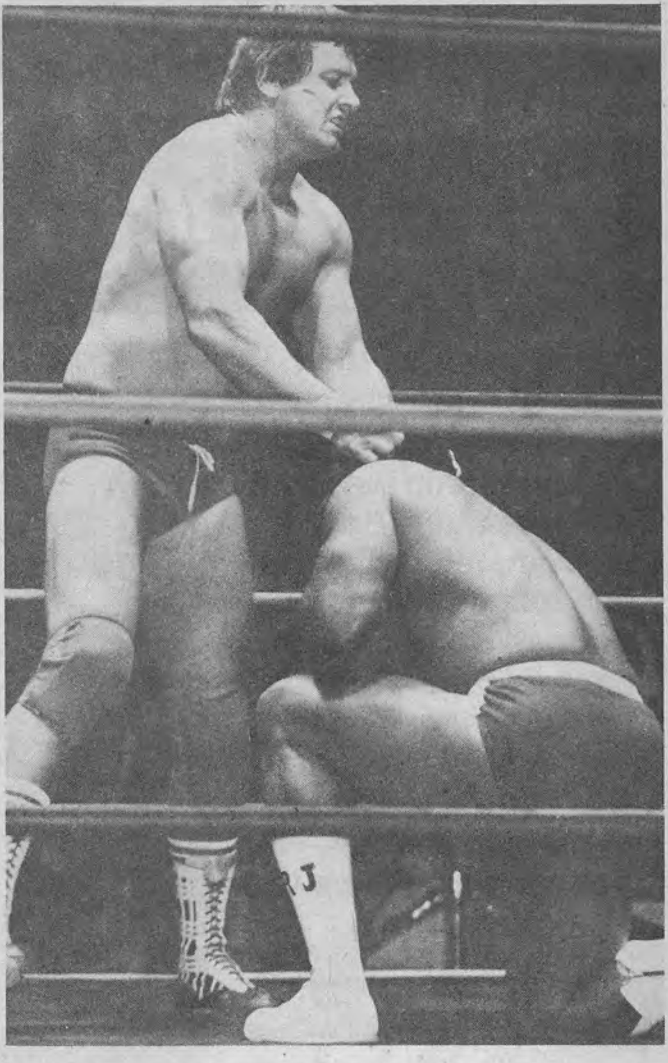
SITTING IN front of the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle, your first plan of attack is to find all the straight-edged pieces and put together the frame. That's not usually too difficult. If it's a puzzle of an outdoor scene, often the pieces on top will be sky blue and the bottom edge will be green.

There's a degree of accomplishment one feels when the frame of the puzzle is completed. Along with that feeling, however, comes the sickening realization that the entire inside has to be filled in. The feeling is similar to the one many people get when they examine the jigsaw puzzle that is the career of Roddy Piper.

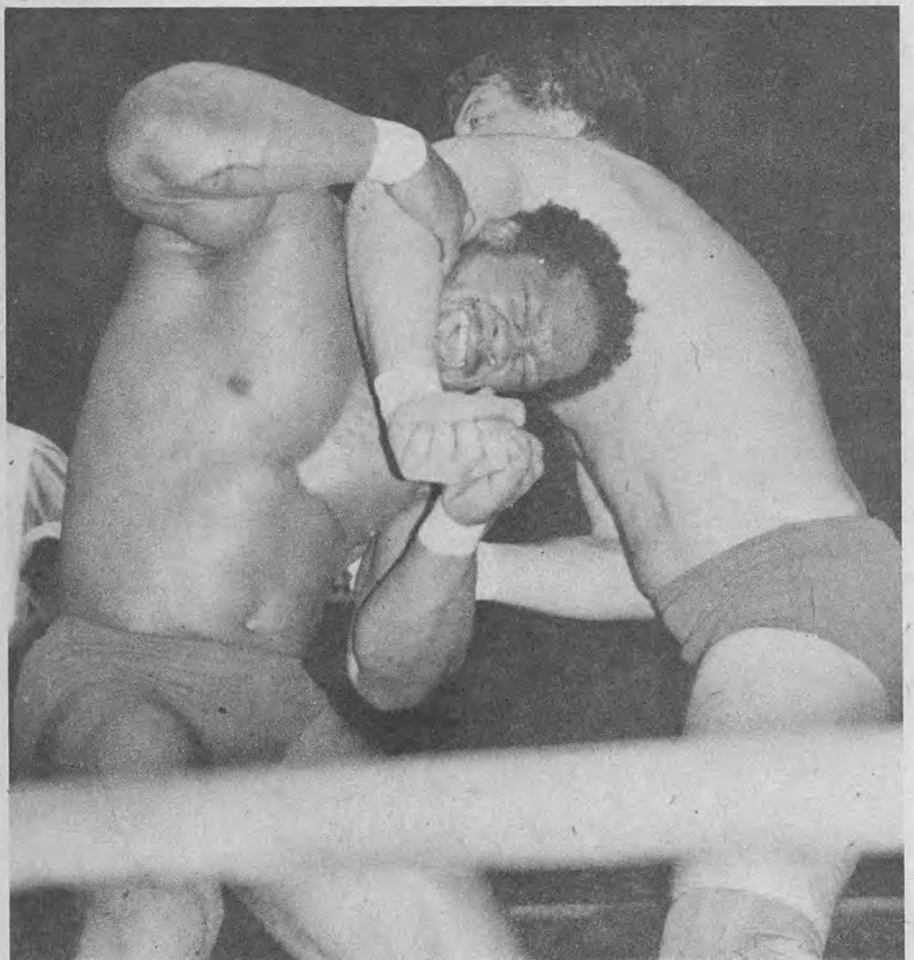
In the Roddy Piper jigsaw puzzle, the frame represents all the things that he has done throughout his career: the title victories and losses, his many changes in attitude, his time spent as a manager and commentator. Once the frame of the puzzle is complete, the more difficult task remains: completing the inside of the puzzle. In this case, that means explaining why Roddy Piper does the things that he does.

The one thing to remember, wrestling experts agree, is that no matter how haphazard and inconsistent Piper's career decisions seem to be, everything he does is carefully planned out. Lately, Piper has been looking for matches with some of the WWF's top-rated stars. Why, if Roddy wants only to manage, work on TV, and wrestle only occasionally "to keep in shape," would he go out of his way to start feuds with Rocky Johnson and Jimmy Snuka?





When Piper wrestled against Tony Atlas (above and below) and Rocky Johnson (right) in tag team matches, he apparently always had Hulk Hogan on his mind. Roddy secretly took a match against Leo Burke in Toronto (opposite left) to get back the feeling of wrestling solo.



The experts speculate:

"Piper wants Hulk Hogan's WWF title," longtime WWF follower Earl Fischman said after a recent wrestling card at the Baltimore Civic Center. "Piper has always been the center of attention. He's currently a manager, and a very good one, I might add. I feel he adds a great deal to his wrestlers' performances. But the fans see him as only a man in a skirt presenting a wrestler to the crowd. He's out of the spotlight. That's not Piper's style. He wants to bask in that spotlight again."

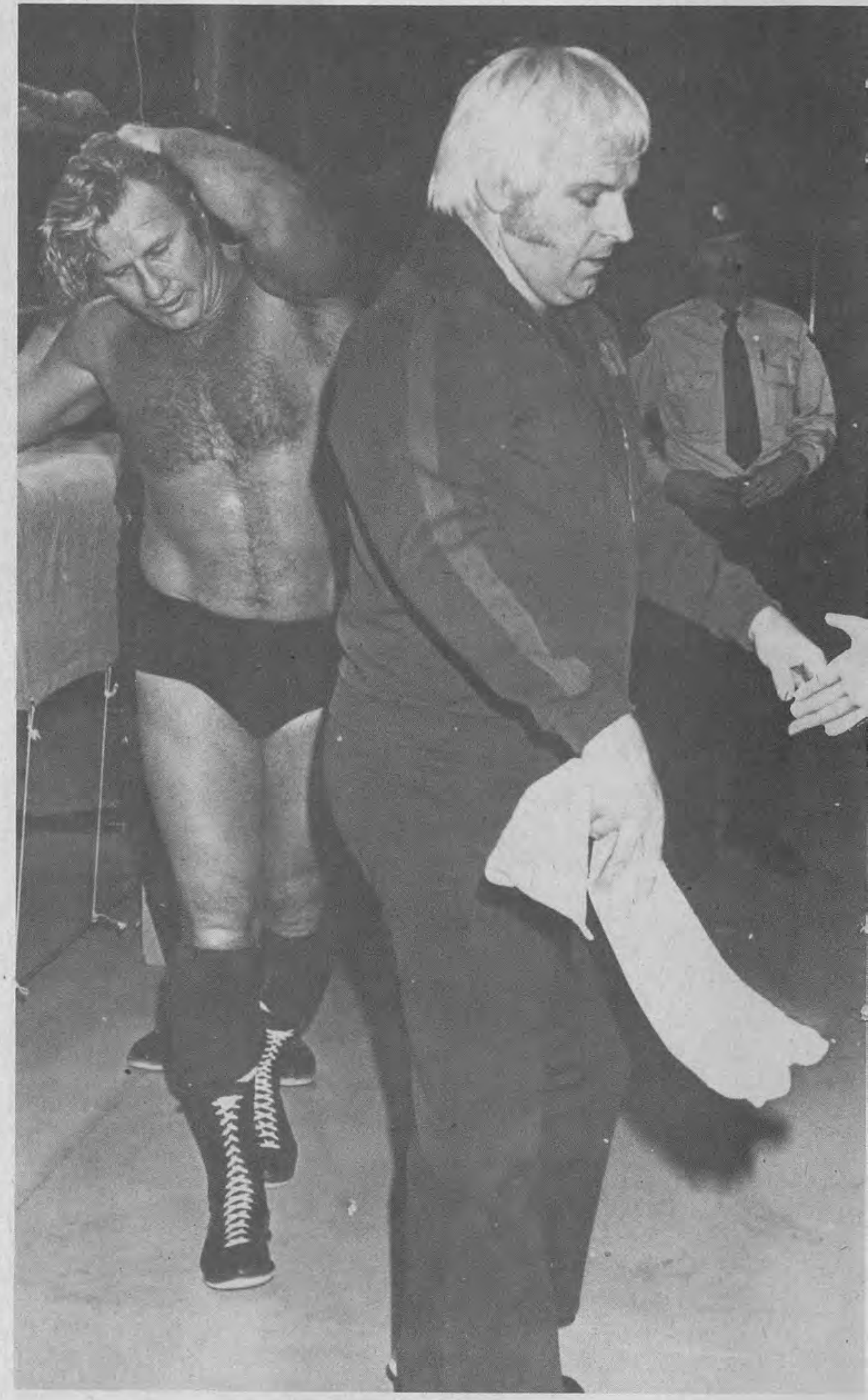
As usual, Piper is accomplishing his goals in a typical Piper method. His manipulations have for the most part taken place outside the ring, and more specifically on television. Associate Editor Craig Peters explains that the devious Piper is using his influence as the host of "Piper's Pit," a interview segment aired during televised WWF wrestling.

(Continued on page 62)

Heenan Sign

HAS "BOBBY THE BRAIN" GIVE

One result of Nick Bockwinkel losing the AWA World championship was that his manager, Bobby Heenan, fell out of the headlines. With the hopes of regaining center stage, Heenan recently acquired the contract of Mr. Saito. Is this acquistion a sign that the Heenan-Bockwinkel alliance will soon end?



THE HOTEL BALLROOM was aglow with light as photographers' flash units ignited the room. There was a steady clicking from cameras as the photographers shot off frame after frame.

Bobby Heenan, familiarly dressed in a three-piece suit, stood before them, shaking the hand of a man who did not appear to be as comfortable in similar clothing.

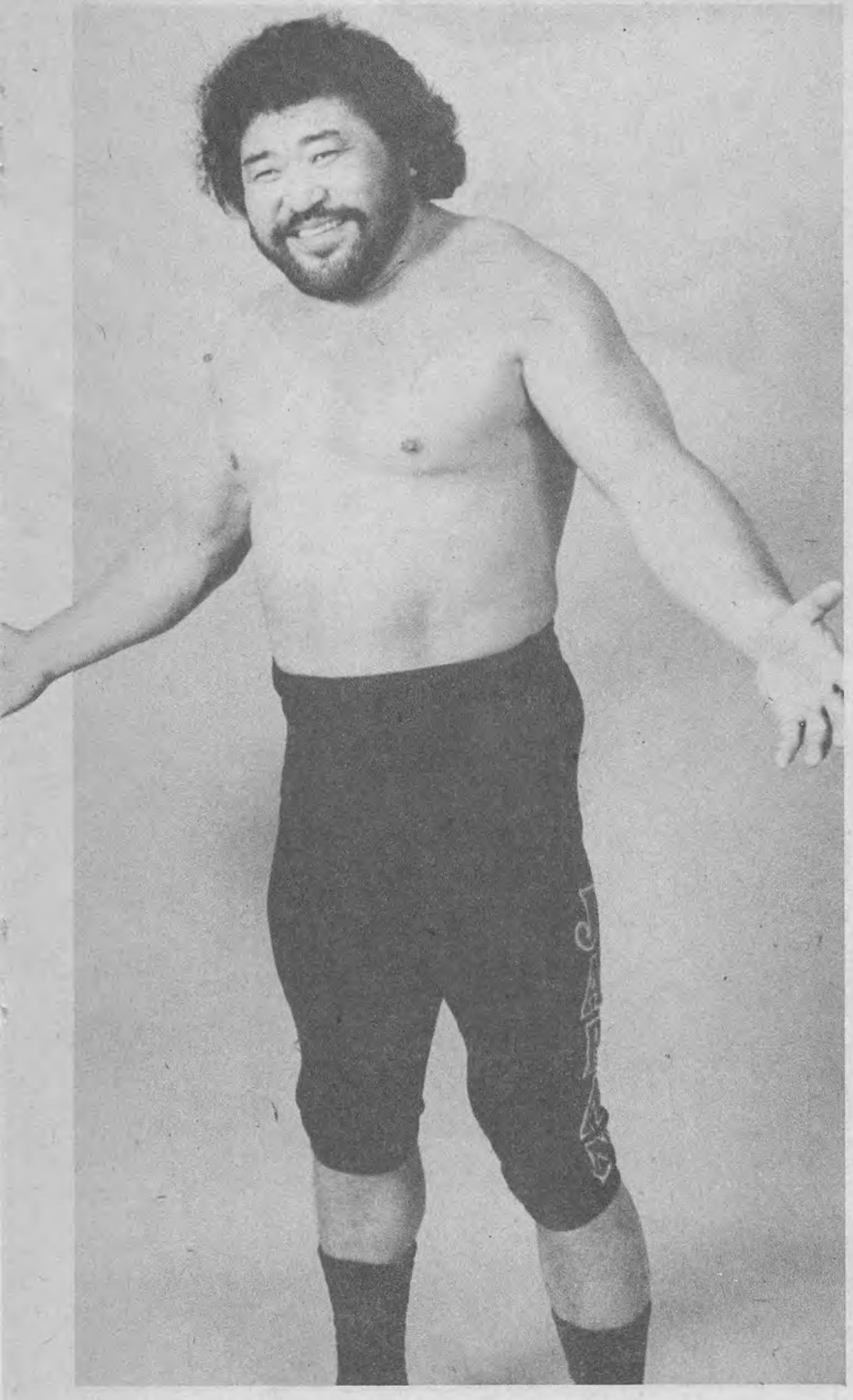
The reporters at the press conference rushed out to the hall and headed for a bank of telephones. What had Heenan said to cause such commotion? Actually, it was not what Heenan said, but what he didn't say.

The conference had been called by the manager to announce the signing of Mr. Saito. Saito, who had wrestled on his own since leaving Capt. Lou Albano and the WWF, seemed confident that his affiliation with Heenan would bring him the most notable success of his career. "Mr. Heenan is a genius, as you well

ns Mr. Saito:

Photos by Mick Karch

EN UP ON NICK BOCKWINKEL?



It appears as if Bobby Heenan may have turned his back on Nick Bockwinkel (opposite page) to concentrate his managerial efforts on Mr. Saito (left). The Japanese star pressures Baron Von Raschke (above).

know," Saito said. "With his assistance, I foresee great success. I plan to be the next champion of the world."

A reporter stood up in the sea of journalists, pen and pad in hand, and remarked, "Mr. Heenan, it would seem as if there would be some sort of conflict here, with Nick Bockwinkel still challenging Rick Martel for the AWA World title as well."

His point, as obvious as it was to his fellow media memnbers and to Heenan and Saito, was still well-made. Rarely will one manager place two of his wrestlers in contention for a world championship at the same time.

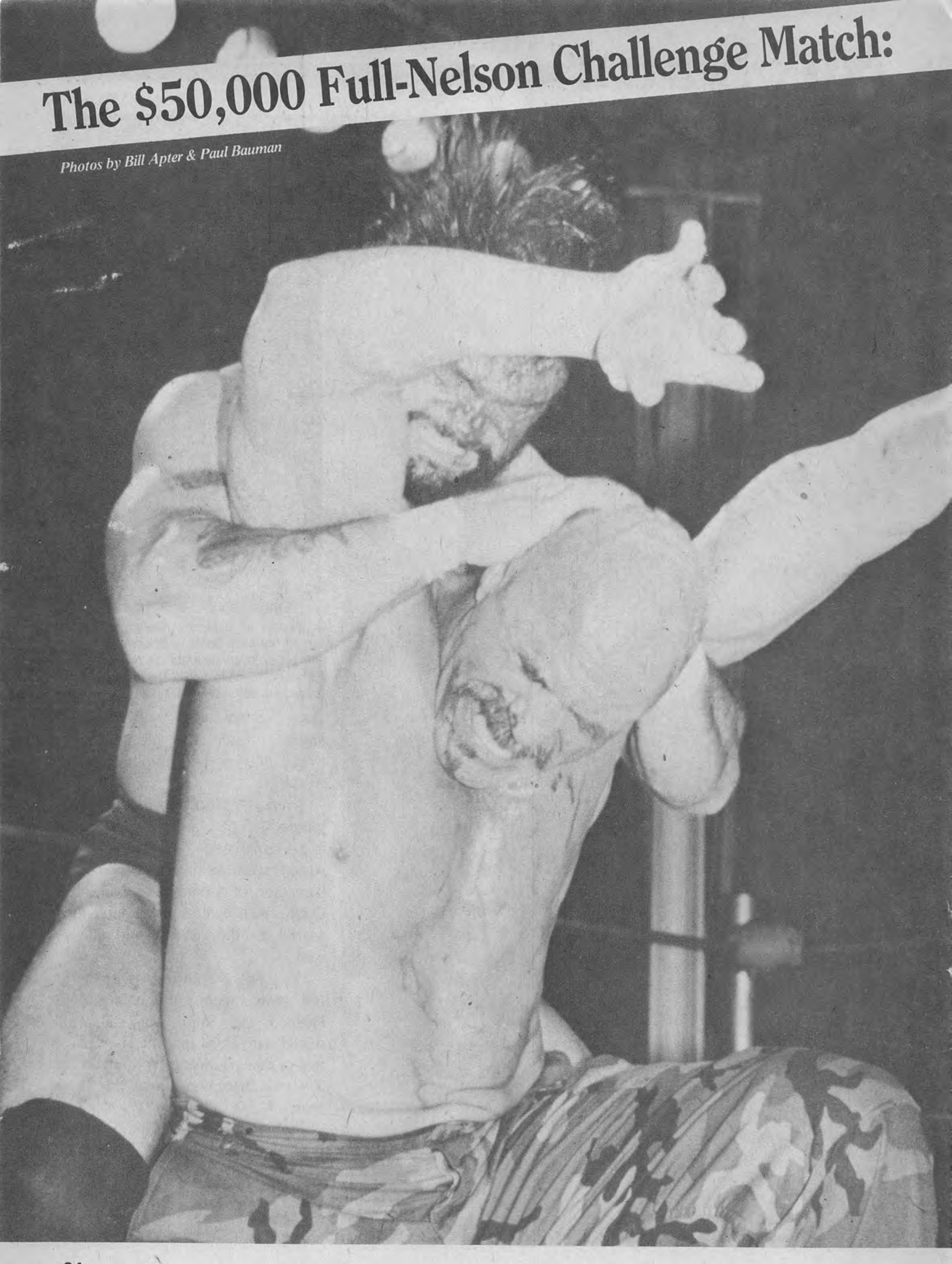
The reporter continued, "Will Bockwinkel and Saito be challenging Rick Martel at the same time?"

"No comment," Heenan responded.

(Continued on page 64)

The $50,000 Full-Nelson Challenge Match:

Photos by Bill Apter & Paul Bauman



BILLY JACK GETS BLOODY REVENGE AGAINST SUPERSTAR GRAHAM

Billy Jack has suffered defeat and humiliation at the hands of Superstar Graham—defeat when Graham won the Florida heavyweight title from Billy, and humiliation when Graham attacked Billy and broke his left hand following an arm-wrestling contest. But on June 30 in the Orange Bowl, Billy Jack earned $50,000 . . . and plenty of revenge!

JUNE 6, 1984—Tampa Sportatorium, Tampa, Florida: Superstar Billy Graham is anxious to squelch the reputation that Billy Jack has built up since his arrival in Florida. Billy Jack, who had traveled to the Sunshine State from Portland, Oregon, is recognized throughout Florida and across the nation as one of the sport's strongest athletes. It is said that no man has ever broken out of Billy Jack's full-nelson.

It is likely that there is an element of jealousy involved with Graham's vendetta. Graham was once hailed as one of the strongest men in wrestling following his appearance on the nationally televised "World's Strongest Man" competition in the mid-'70s, where he dead-lifted 1,700 pounds. But that event has faded into dim memory along with Graham's short-lived WWF title reign, and his unsuccessful attempt to regain that belt late in 1982.

Graham is anxious to recapture and relive lost glories, and he's willing to do so at the expense of wrestling's brightest young star, Florida heavyweight champion Billy Jack.

An arm-wrestling contest has been set up to determine which man is stronger. Graham's manager, Sir Oliver Humperdink, stands on the sidelines.

Billy Jack saps Superstar Graham's strength with a bearhug (above) and, despite losing large amounts of blood, will go on to win $50,000 with his full-nelson (opposite page).

The contest begins: Billy Jack gains an advantage. Loses it. Graham almost has the win. Billy Jack comes back. Humperdink looks worried. Sweat pours down Graham's face. A grunt and a groan. A surge of adrenaline. Billy Jack slams Graham's hand down in a crushing defeat.

Graham is outraged. With the aid of Humperdink and One Man Gang (who has since turned against Graham and Humperdink), Graham breaks the table apart and uses the pieces to savagely attack Billy Jack, breaking his left hand.

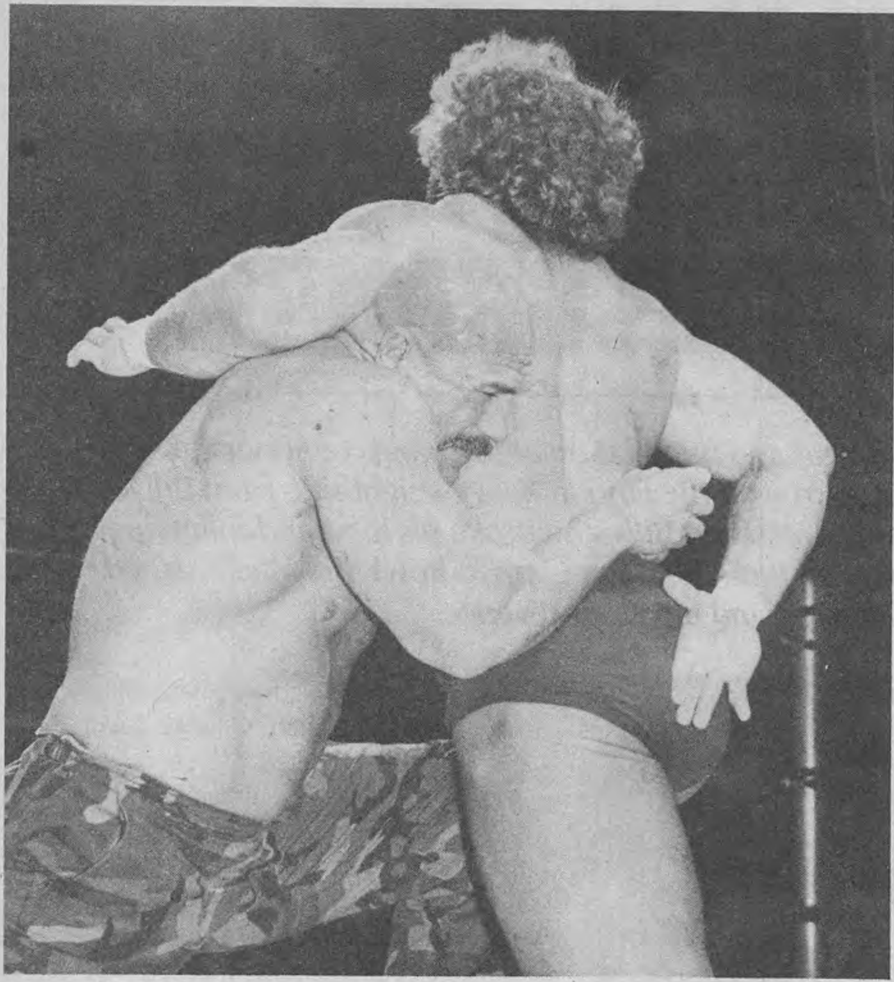
Billy Jack is devastated. He has several defenses of his Florida title upcoming, and virtually no chance of retaining his title through that series of matches.

***

June 10, 1984—Eddie Graham Sports Complex, Orlando, Florida: Billy Jack is defending his Florida title with a cast on his left hand. Superstar Billy Graham is his opponent.

Graham enters the ring with a sadistic smile. He knows that Billy will be wrestling with an injured hand, an injury that *he* caused. That pleases Graham almost as much as the prospect of capturing the Florida title.

And when the match had finished, Graham was doubly pleased: He had the Florida championship belt around his waist, and had succeeded in sustaining a concentrated attack against Billy Jack during the match, an attack that the ringside physician feared might have

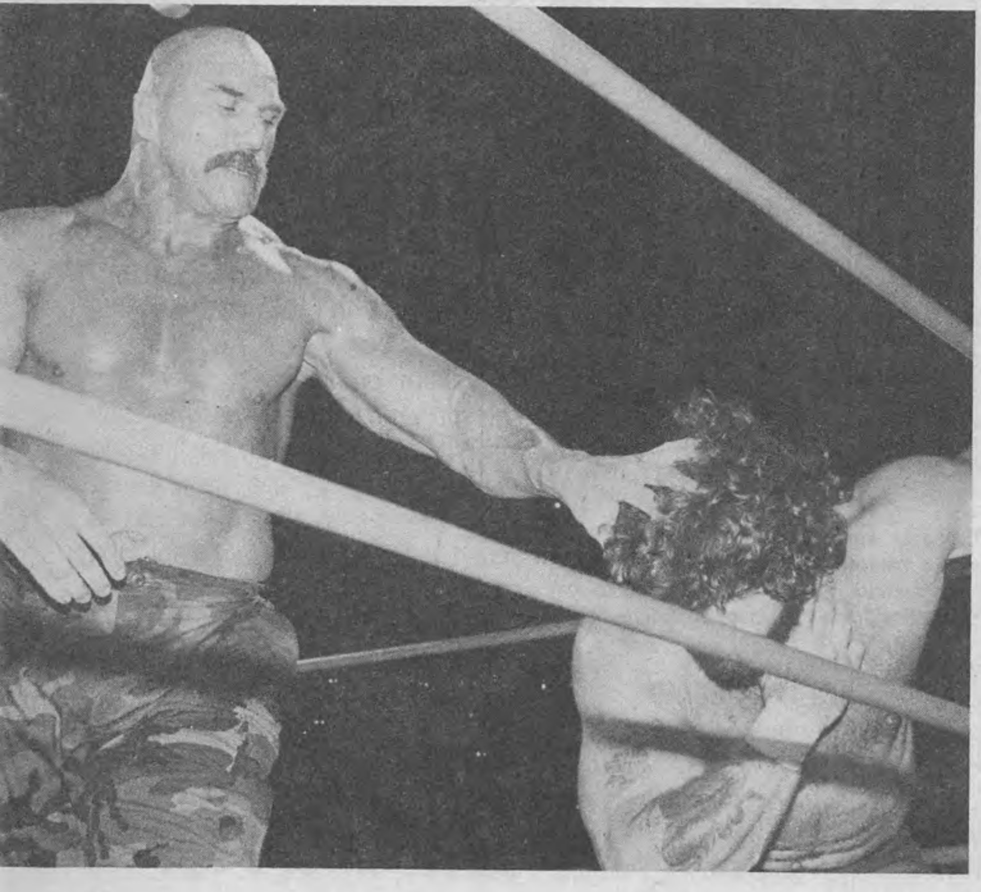


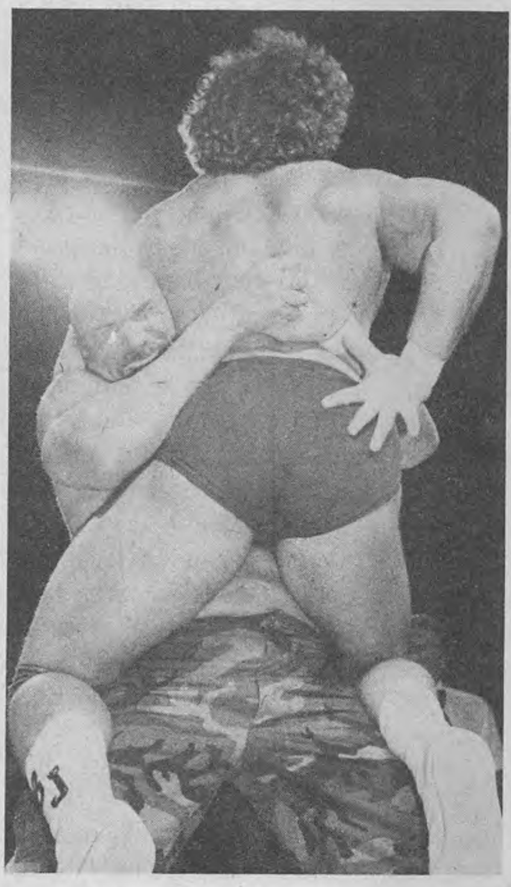
destroyed all chances for Billy Jack's hand to heal properly.

Billy Jack had been injured by Superstar Graham. His title was taken away by Superstar Graham. In many respects, Billy Jack's very self-respect was taken away by Superstar Graham.

The time had come for Billy Jack

Graham drives his shoulder into Billy Jack's midsection (above), slams Billy's head into a ladder (right), traps him in a bearhug (below right), and has him gasping for air (below left). It didn't appear that Billy Jack would be able to come back.





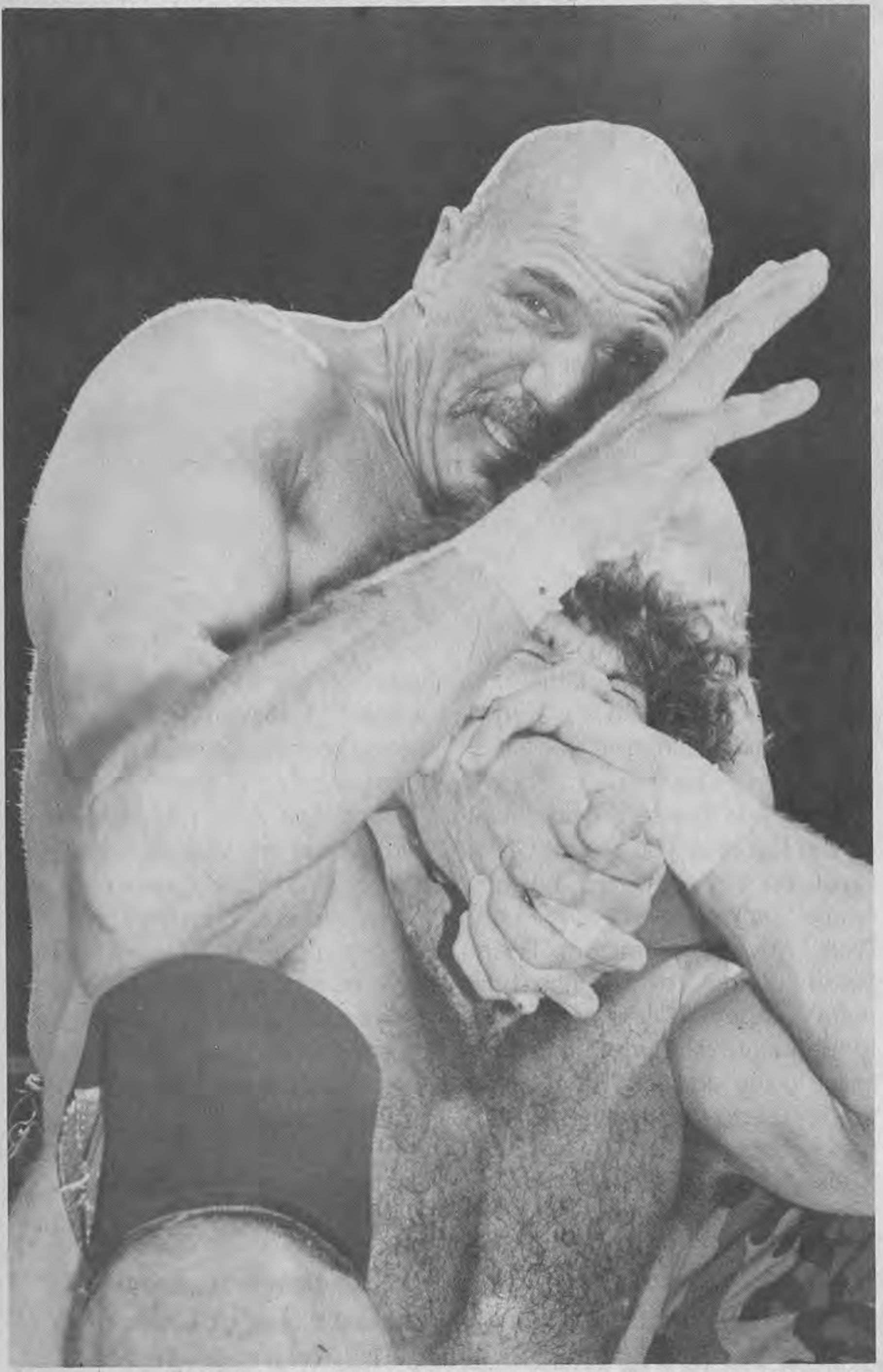
to regain his self-respect.

***

June 30, 1984—The Orange Bowl, Miami, Florida: Billy Jack isn't so concerned about capturing the $50,000 purse in this special challenge match against Superstar Graham. Not that $50,000 isn't a nice addition to the bank account, but there is another stipulation to the match that is even more important to Billy Jack: The winner will be the man who makes his opponent submit by using the full-nelson.

For Graham, this match would be an opportunity to silence Billy Jack forever. For Billy Jack, it would be an opportunity to gain retribution for all the abuse suffered at the hands of Graham.

The match is a textbook example in tactical wrestling. Each man stalks the other like a panther, looking for the proper opening through which to strike, apply a hold, and weaken his man in order to move in for the full-nelson.


Graham clamps his hands around Billy Jack's chin and turns on the pressure. Although he did not have to surrender his Florida title, Graham lost the opportunity to win a lot of money, and, worse, his ego took a tremendous beating.

Graham has a chinlock clamped down on Billy Jack, and follows up his attack with a viselike bearhug. But Billy Jack's physical conditioning enables him to endure a hold that would have most other wrestlers howling in submission. Billy Jack break through the bearhug and captures Graham in a bearhug of his own!

With each motion and movement that Billy Jack makes, the tens of thousands of Florida fans in the Orange Bowl cheer and scream for their hero. They are offering Billy Jack their total and unequivocal support, and Billy Jack takes their cheers and channels them through his body so that he and the fans became as one, battling Graham and defying the oddsmakers, who felt that lingering effects of the hand injury would cost him the match.

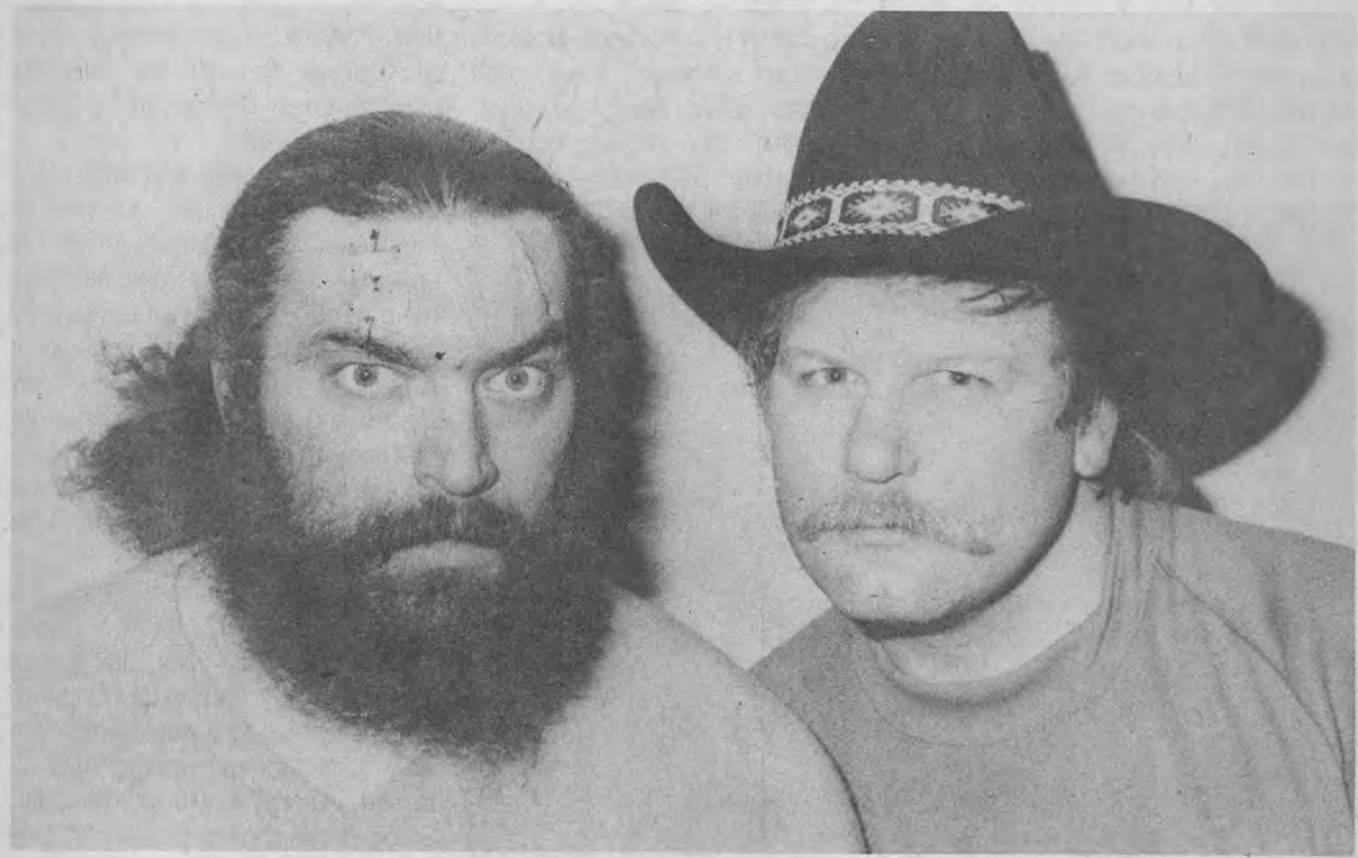
And when Billy Jack clamps the full-nelson on Superstar Graham, the cheers rise to a deafening level. Billy Jack tightens up on the full-nelson. Graham winces in pain. Blood flows down Graham's face from a cut that Jack had opened on his head earlier in the bout. Billy Jack tightens up even more. The fans continue to cheer louder and louder with each passing second. The veins in Graham's head bulge from the pressure of Billy Jack's arms. The veins in Billy Jack's temples bulge as he increases the pressure of his full-nelson.

Then—Graham submits! The fans go wild! Billy Jack releases the hold and Graham crumples to the mat in a heap of exhaustion.

Billy Jack rises to his feet, surveys the thousands of fans cheering his victory, and smiles. He has defeated a man who had humiliated him. He has avenged a bitter defeat. He has gained revenge, and regained his self-respect.

The Florida heavyweight belt is only a matter of time. □

BRUISER BRODY & STAN HANSEN: Today Puerto Rico, Tomorrow The AWA?



STAN HANSEN TOOK the tag from his partner, Bruiser Brody. As his 283-pound body charged into the ring, Hansen thrust his right arm into the air, extended his index and pinky fingers in his characteristic salute, and let out a Texas war cry that seemed to begin at his feet and grow louder with each inch as it approached his mouth.

"Hoooo!" Hansen howled. Seconds later he was choking King Tonga on the ropes, yelling at no one in particular as he did so:

"Look at this punk! Take this! *Hahaha!* Texas justice! *Hoooo!*"

And in the corner of the ring, Bruiser Brody smiled in admiration of the destructive tactics of his tag team partner.

Brody and Hansen, who defeated fan favorites Tonga and Carlos Colon on this night, are the most feared combination in Puerto Rico. Several prominent Puerto Rican promoters will not have them compete in their arenas due to the heavy damage they tend to inflict to the dressing room areas, the ring, and, most of all, to their opponents.

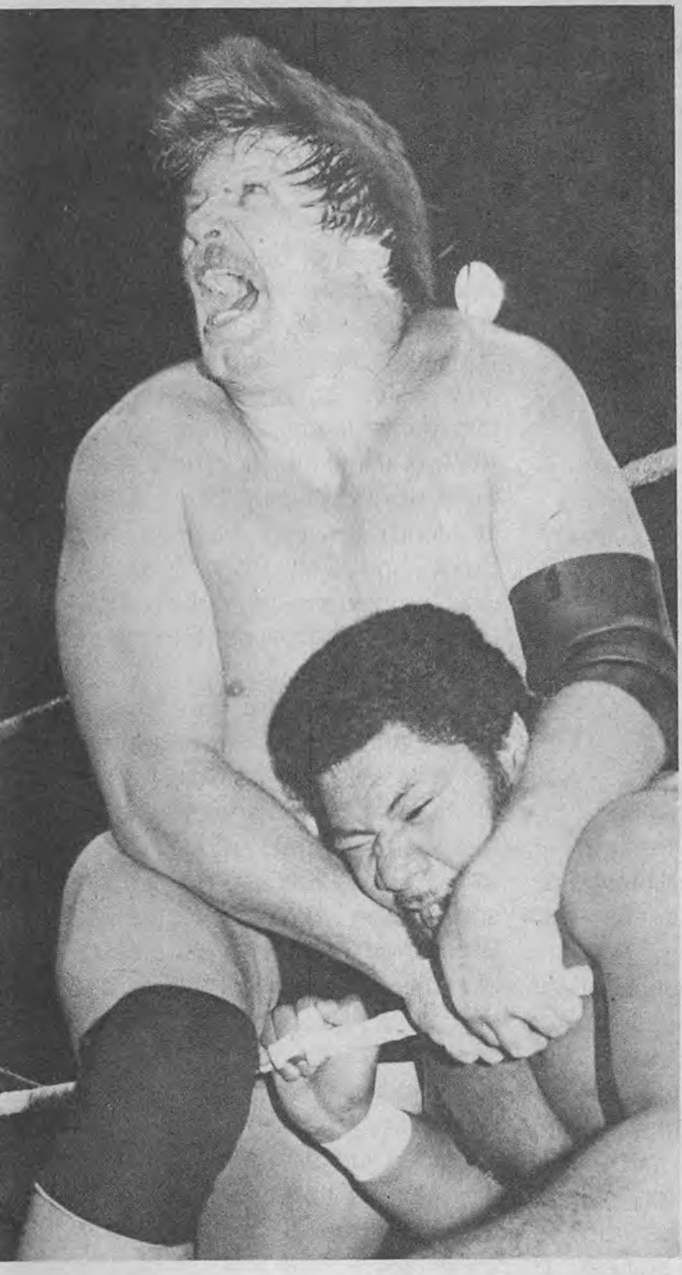
One Puerto Rican promoter spoke to *The Wrestler* about the team of Hansen and Brody, but wished to remain anonymous to avoid possible retaliation by the team.

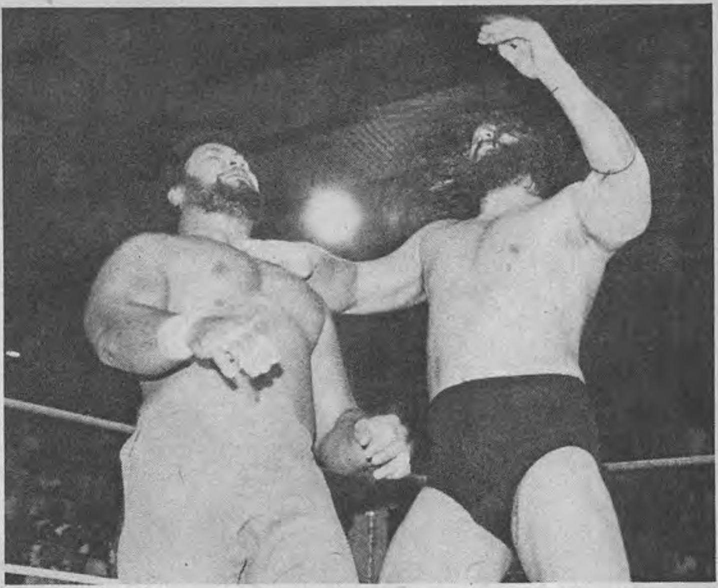
"The last time I booked them into one of my arenas," the promoter said, "they caused total havoc. I don't know what they did to psych themselves up before their match, but they totally destroyed my dressing rooms: three broken tables, four broken mirrors, two lockers rendered completely useless . . . and I can't count the number of broken chairs.

"Then, during the match, they

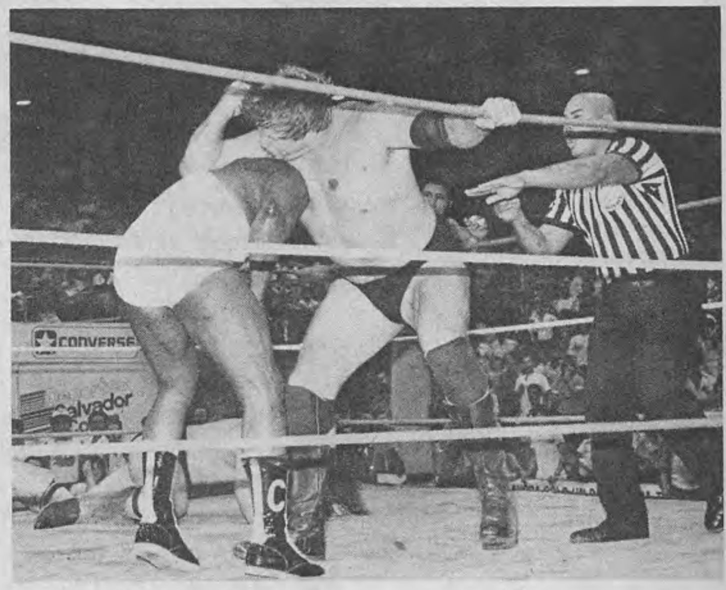
A brutal tag team match in Puerto Rico saw two formidable powerhouses—Bruiser Brody and Stan Hansen—joining forces against the team of Carlos Colon and King Tonga. Was the Brody-Hansen team simply a one-shot affair, or is Brody scouting a permanent new tag team partner to aid him in his conquest of the AWA?

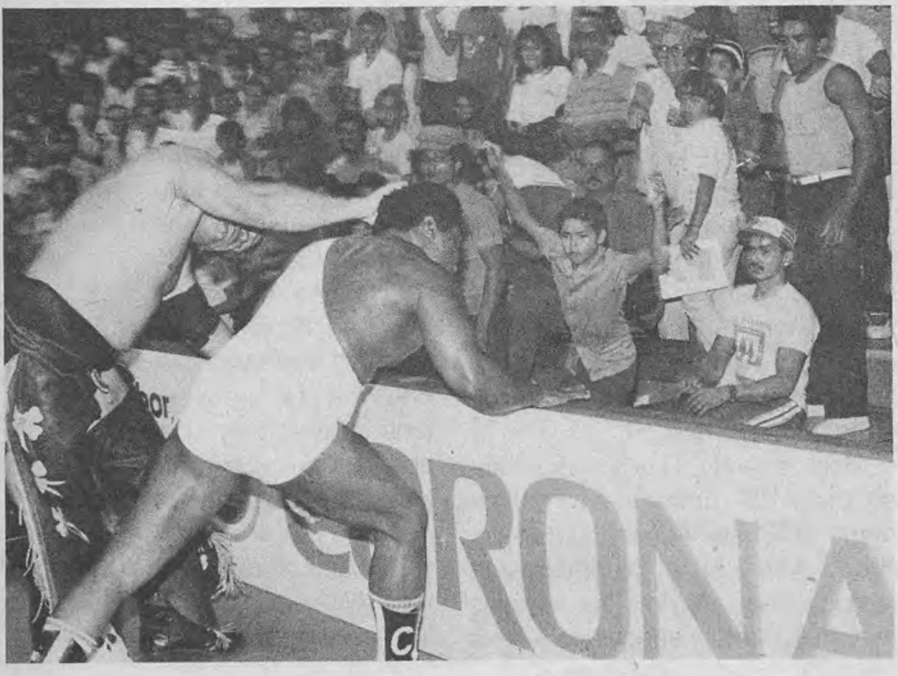
Photos by Chaz Fenn





King Tonga is strangled with the ring rope by Hansen (left) and chopped in the throat by Brody (above). The Puerto Rican fans are dismayed by Hansen's treatment of Carlos Colon (below and bottom).





started slamming chairs all over the place, in the ring, at ringside, over their opponents' heads. There were wooden chairs and metal chairs spread around the arena. I forget whether it was Hansen or Brody, but one of them slammed one of the wooden chairs to bits on the ring apron, and the splinters went flying. They picked up the splintered wood and were just about to use them on their opponents when about 12 other wrestlers came in to stop them.

"I confronted Brody and Hansen about what they did at the end of the night, after they had showered and were ready to

Hansen, in control, has Tonga down on his hands and knees, vulnerable to absorb more punishment (above). Brody lifts Tonga by the shoulder and pants, and slams him to the mat (below).

leave," the promoter said. "They just laughed in my face and left the arena slapping each other on their backs like they had just completed a job well done. After that, I vowed never to have Hansen or Brody in any of my arenas ever again."

But it's that very penchant for reckless destruction that has provided Brody and Hansen with their unique reputations.

"Hansen is a wildman," said Colon in his dressing room after the match. "Pound for pound, he's one of the strongest men in the sport, and he uses any and all means at his disposal for unleashing that strength on his opponent.

"Brody is simply a maniac," Colon said, "but he's a maniac under control. He has an extensive knowledge of scientific moves and maneuvers, and he couples that with an uncanny attitude of total recklessness. I wouldn't want to step into the ring against him, no matter how big I was or how much experience I had. He's too dangerous a man."

Most recently, Brody has invaded the AWA under the management of Sheik Adnan Al-Kaissie. Brody has cut a bloody swath through the area in his singles matches, and speculation has arisen that Al-Kaissie is looking for the proper tag team partner with whom Brody can take the AWA World belts from Baron Von Raschke and The Crusher.

Perhaps he need look no further than Puerto Rico.

"The team of Stan Hansen and Bruiser Brody has already established supremacy in Puerto Rico," admitted Colon, "and I think that they would be one of the most formidable teams ever to hit the AWA. I think that if it happened, there would wind up being a major feud between Hansen and Brody and The Road Warriors, who are now making quite a reputation for themselves throughout the AWA.

"But the problem right now is that Hansen has made some commitments in the Mid-Atlantic area, while Brody is contracted to Al-Kaissie in the AWA," Colon said. "For Al-Kaissie to get Hansen to the AWA to team with Brody would take a great amount of money. He would have to buy out all of Hansen's Mid-Atlantic contracts.

"Of course," Colon continued, "Al-Kaissie's been known to spread a lot of money around in the past, so there's no reason to think he wouldn't do the same thing now."

Indeed, Hansen fits the mold of the kind of wrestler that Al-Kaissie favors.

Along with Brody, Al-Kaissie now has Abdullah the Butcher in his stable, a man whose wrestling style is that of a destructive juggernaut. Should Al-Kaissie bring Hansen to the AWA and team him with Brody, he would be unleashing a destructive force upon the area the likes of which AWA fans have only heard rumors about. The team of Brody and Hansen is experienced, powerful, deadly . . .

. . . And a dangerous threat to the AWA just waiting to occur. The next move is Al-Kaissie's. □

Special Ringside Report By

KERRY VON ERICH:

"I COST MY BROTHER MIKE THE NWA TITLE!"

NWA World champion Ric Flair exudes confidence during the prematch instructions. Kerry Von Erich is in the ring to lend his 20-year-old brother, Mike, moral support.

I WANTED IT to be Mike's night. He was getting a chance to become immortal. It was his shot at Ric Flair and I wanted him to have the spotlight all to himself. But I also thought I should be there with him. After all, I beat Ric once. And I am Mike's brother. Even if I had known nothing about the way Flair wrestles—which is hardly the case—I thought I should be there for moral support.

It was a strange night. When I was dressing to go to the arena that night, I put on a pair of jeans and a shirt. Then I took that off and put on a suit. Then I took off the jacket and the tie and decided to just wear the dress shirt and the pants. I got in my car to leave, and then I went back in the house to get the jacket and tie. I figured I'd bring it with me, just in case.

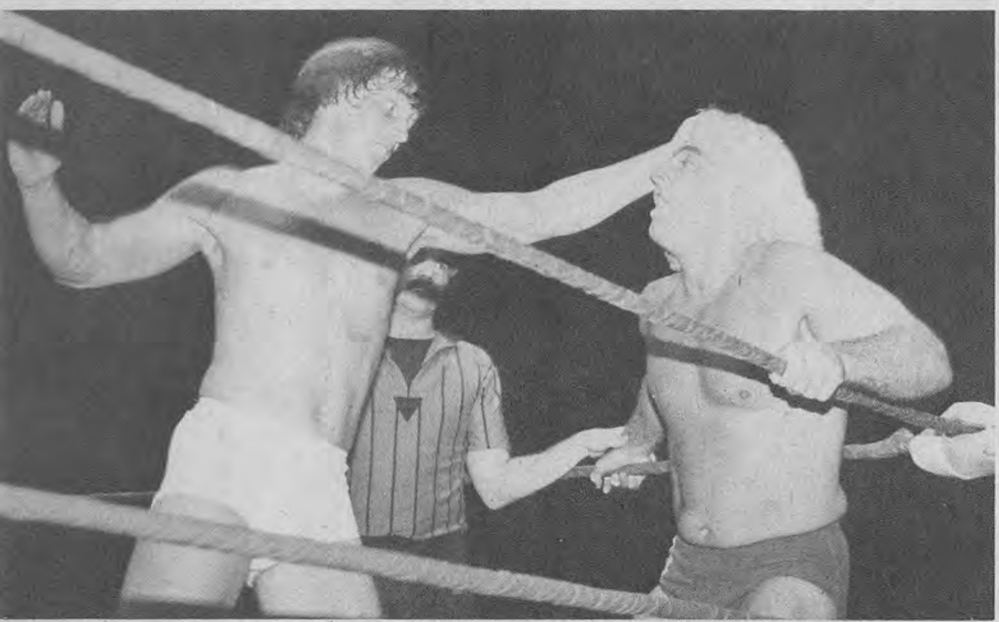
Was I supposed to be a coach? A manager? The former World champion? Or was I just supposed to be Mike Von Erich's brother? I tried to imagine how David would have handled something like this. I thought back to my first shot at the World title. David was there. He didn't have to think about what he was going to do beforehand; David operated on instinct. Everything he did was so natural that he just seemed to fit in. I decided I would try to be be like David and not worry about it.

The second Flair saw me at ringside, he started in. Referee David Manning was giving him and Mike the instructions, and Flair was laughing at Mike. Then he just looked at me, trying to stare me down. It wasn't my match, it was Mike's. I thought I should get out of there right then, but I stayed. I realized that Flair wasn't taking this match seriously, and this was a big mistake on his part. Mike and I had worked hard to get ready for this match. Flair would be sorry.

It was Mike Von Erich's first chance at the NWA World heavyweight title. And despite his youth and inexperience, he was actually in a position to defeat Ric Flair for the belt. The fact that he did not is something for which his brother Kerry is taking full blame. In this exclusive feature, Kerry explains why he feels he was responsible for Mike's loss

Photos by Buddy Myers

Flair, who never expected so tough a match, reaches for the ropes to force Mike to release his sleeperhold (above). Mike corners Ric and fires away (below). Kerry takes exception to the way his brother is being abused (right).



I was pretty confident when I left the ring. Mike was ready. He's still young, but he's been around wrestling for a long, long time and he had his wits about him. I said a little prayer, just like I do before my matches, and waited for the bell to ring.

Mike was careful at the beginning. This wasn't his first match with Flair. Last December he wrestled him in a 10-minute non-title match. Still, there was no reason for him to rush into anything. There are a lot of guys who'll try to surprise you in the first minute of a match by throwing a pinning combination at you. I always say it's best to take it slow at the beginning.

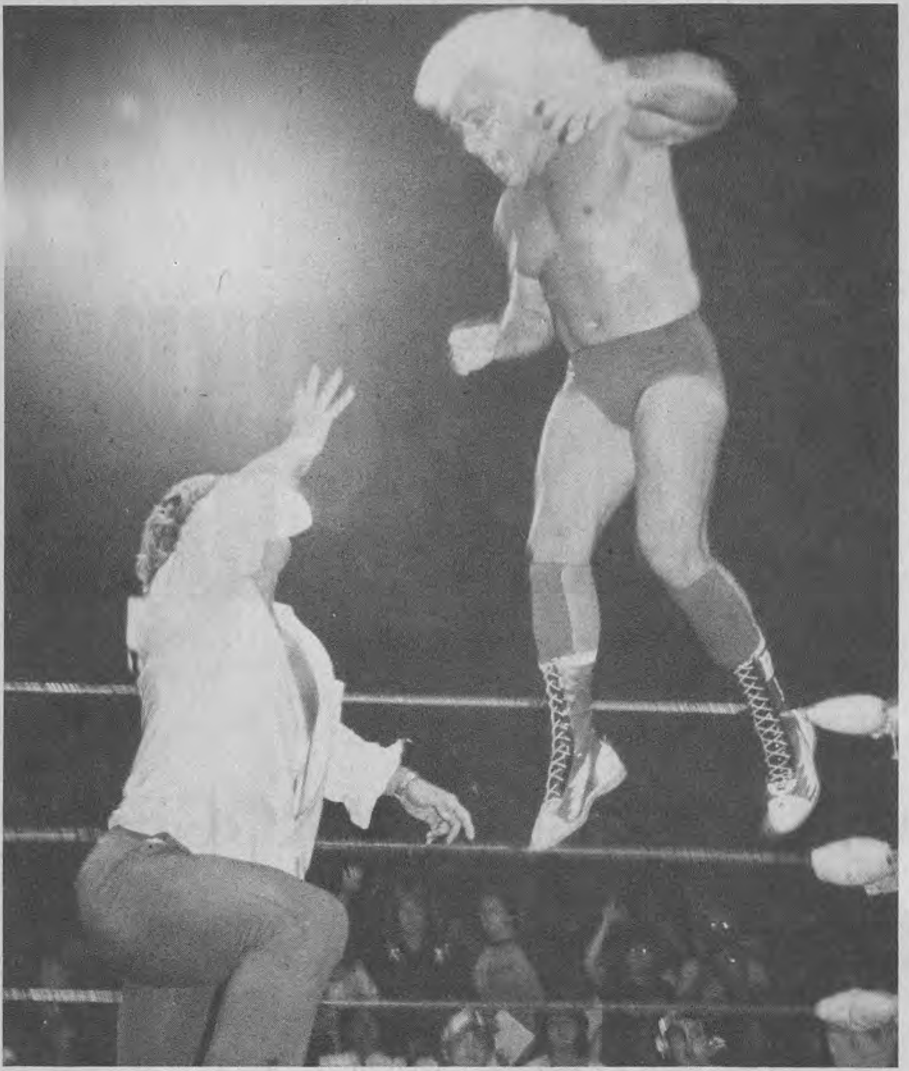
Flair quickly realized he wasn't in there with just another kid. Mike had his number that night. So Flair fell back on his old tricks, the same tricks he used when he beat me in Japan to regain the NWA belt.

Then he started to get me mad. Ric started laying the boots to Mike, and then he walked over to the side of the ring I was standing on. He said something like, "Sending little brother in to fight your battles," or something like that. I told him he better pay attention to what's going on in the ring or he wasn't going to be champion for too much longer.

Mike did just what I expected of him. He caught Flair from behind, which was well within the rules. Flair wasn't paying attention and Mike took advantage of that. He caught Flair in the sleeperhold, but Manning made him release when Flair reached the ropes.

Mike had Flair down, and I was really getting into it now. Maybe I was getting a little ahead of what was actually going on in the ring, but at that point I thought Mike had it wrapped up. Flair was groggy. Mike still had a lot of energy left. I was getting excited.

But Ric Flair is the champion, and you don't get there without being able to put forth that second effort. Flair was just getting his second wind and he started fighting back. He set Mike



After a confrontation between Flair and Kerry Von Erich outside the ring, the main event suddenly changed. Kerry is ready for Flair as the champion springs from the turnbuckles (above). Kerry's right hand sends Flair staggering across the ring (right). The forgotten man in all this is Mike Von Erich, who was disqualified for his brother's interference.

up for the figure-four and as he clamped down on his legs I could practically feel the pain in my own. He looked over to me and screamed, "Nineteen days don't make a champion, boy." I wanted to jump in there and show him what makes a champion, but I held back.

Mike struggled to reverse the hold, but he just doesn't have the leg strength. So, he did the second best thing and struggled to the ropes. He forced Flair to break the hold.

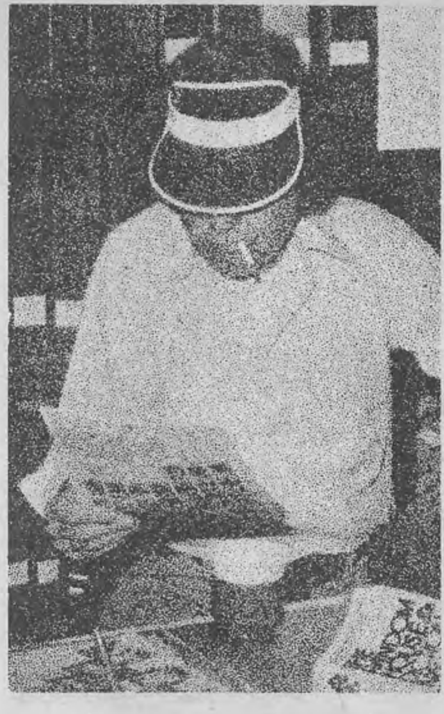
Flair was fuming. I was relieved. Mike was tired. The figure-four really weakened his legs. But I noticed something else—Flair's legs weren't so good

either. They were very shaky, and he almost collapsed as he tried to bodyslam Mike. Mike was on the mat, but I could sense he was ready to turn the match around by using his youth and strength to overwhelm the tiring champion. I wanted to get a chant going with the crowd, something that would give Mike that little extra push.

With my back turned toward the ring, I started to lead the crowd in a chant of "Let's go Mike!" Then I felt Flair grab me from behind, and soon my head was being slammed into the ringpost. At that point I went on automatic. Flair had ridiculed me, my title reign, and my family. Emotions took over. I jumped in there and did what I had to do. I don't even remember Mike being in the ring, although I'm sure he was. Every time I hit Flair I felt a little better. Manning tried to break it up and I pushed him out of the way. It felt so good to get all that anger out of me.

It felt great until I realized that Mike was disqualified for my interference. I blew Mike's chance at the World championship. All he said was, "I understand." He was upset, but he knew why I did what I did. □

MATT BROCK'S LOOKING BACK



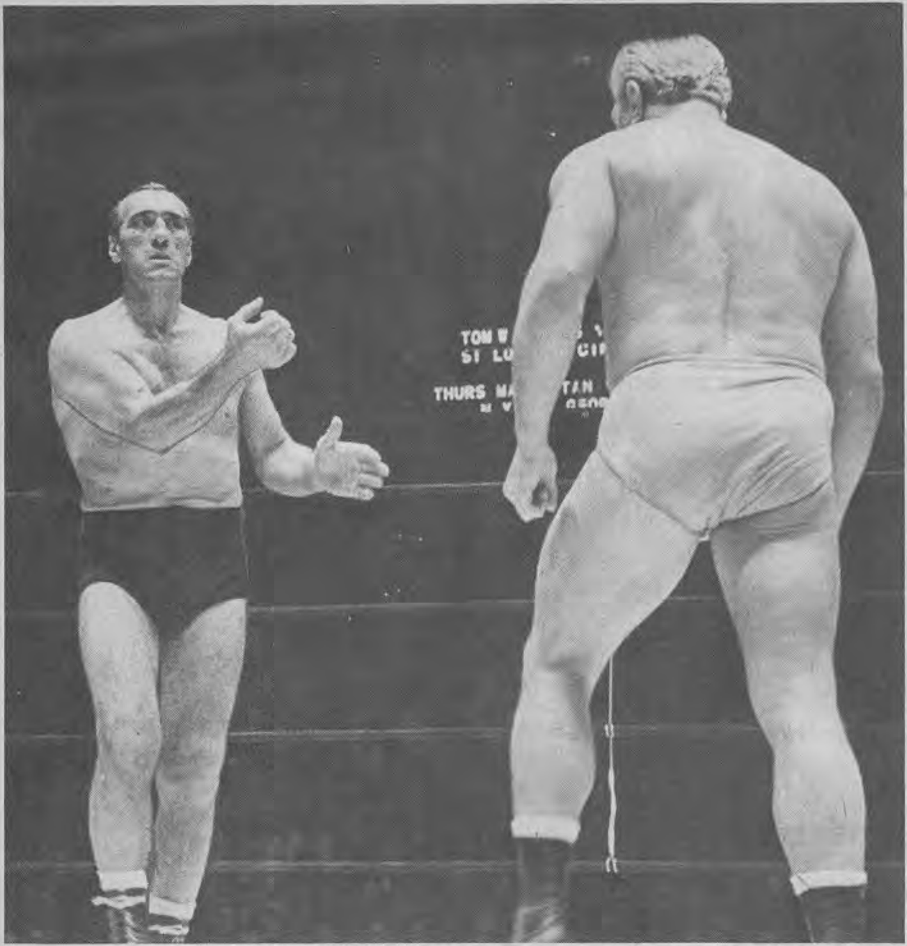
MARCH 1961
PRIMO CARNERA VS. BUDDY ROGERS

Issuing instructions before the match, the referee is dwarfed by Primo Carnera. Buddy Rogers is fit and ready for battle.

I WAS JUST a kid when I traveled to Madison Square Garden with my father to see a 6'6", 260-pound heavyweight boxer named Primo Carnera fight a guy by the name of Big Boy Peterson. That was back in January of 1930, and I'll never forget the thrill of being "in" on what was going on. After all, back in those days there weren't a lot of kids who got to taste the smokey and overtly scandalous atmosphere of the boxing world.

They carried Peterson out on a stretcher, as I recall. And I vividly remember the boos and catcalls that followed the fight. Years later, when I was old enough to understand what was going on, my father explained to me that the boos and catcalls were because of the common belief that "the fix was in," and that it was simply a bad fight. In those days, the fix was always supposed to be in.

Nevertheless, Carnera had sent a lot of guys out on stretchers, none of whom suffered with the pain and agony of being knocked out because they were part of any fix.



Carnera, an imposing figure at 6'6" and 260 pounds, challenges Rogers to come toward him (above). "Da Preem" applies a painful wristlock (below). Three months later, Rogers would win the NWA title.

Carnera was a strong man, plain and simple. His vicious punching power had even claimed the life of one man, Ernie Schaff, following a bout in February of 1933.

Boxing. It's a brutal sport. But it taught Carnera the meaning of words like "toughness," "endurance," and "perseverence." Carnera would conquer the boxing world and become the world's heavyweight champion by knocking out Jack Sharkey on June 29, 1933.

Years later, Carnera decided to try to conquer the wrestling world as well. "Da Preem," as he was known, would become one of wrestling's most loved stars of the late 1940s all the way through to the early 1960s.

Carnera was one of the greats. I remember matches of his against Danny McShane, Reggie Lisowski, Ed "Mr. Klean" Miller, The Crusher, and Killer Kowalski.

But one of the greatest matches I have ever seen was Carnera taking on Buddy Rogers in Madison Square Garden in March 1961.

No, it wasn't Carnera in his wrestling prime. But sometimes a great match doesn't occur when both competitors are in their prime. Often, more goes into the making of a great match than purely physical considerations. The human factors must also be considered.

March 1961. I was a little older this time, and though the name "Madison Square Garden" was the same, the specific locale had changed. Carnera was all set to wrestle Buddy Rogers, who was riding a tidal wave of momentum that three months later would propel him to the NWA World title.

As I sat in my seat drinking beer (something I wasn't old enough to do back in 1930), boy, did my mind start chugging.

That night in the Garden, Carnera embodied all that was great about professional wrestling. As he wrestled brilliantly against Rogers, I thought about his matches in the '40s and '50s. In wrestling, there is always a sense that the next match will be the greatest. In Carnera's case, his match against Rogers was the greatest because of all the greatness that had gone on before. For me, that match was a microcosm of his entire career. The greatness. The tradition. The excellence.

Primo Carnera is gone from our world, but those who were lucky enough to see him compete will never forget him. He was one of the great ones, a man who had made a successful transition from boxing to wrestling. Few men are able to do that, and fewer still are able to command the respect and admiration that Carnera did during his lifetime.

Thinking and writing about Carnera this month—suddenly, I feel young again. □

[If you would like to read more about the boxing career of Primo Carnera, pick up a copy of ***Big Book Of Boxing****/November, now on sale]*

OFFI[cial] WRESTLIN[g ratings]

Ratings are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and the inherent skill of each wrestler. These ratings are compiled by the editors and are universally recognized as official.

Rick Martel

Dusty Rhodes

Kerry Von Erich

TOP 10

1—RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN

2—RICK MARTEL
236, Quebec City, Quebec

3—ANDRE THE GIANT
497, Grenoble, France

4—HULK HOGAN
320, Venice Beach, CA

5—DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX

6—KERRY VON ERICH
251, Denton, TX

7—HARLEY RACE
253, Kansas City, MO

8—WAHOO McDANIEL
260, Midland, TX

9—TULLY BLANCHARD
235, San Antonio, TX

10—BARRY WINDHAM
230, Sweetwater, TX

TAG TEAMS

1—IVAN KOLOFF & DON KERNODLE
NWA World tag team champions
Combined weight: 485 pounds

2—BARON VON RASCHKE & CRUSHER
AWA World tag team champions
Combined weight: 539 pounds

3—THE ROAD WARRIORS
Top contenders to AWA tag team title
Combined weight: 567 pounds

4—DICK MURDOCH & ADRIAN ADONIS
WWF tag team champions
Combined weight: 521 pounds

5—BARRY WINDHAM & MIKE ROTUNDO
Top contenders for U.S. tag team championship
Combined weight: 475 pounds

6—ICEMAN PARSONS & BUCK ZUMHOFE
World Class American tag team champions
Combined weight: 464 pounds

7—STEVE KEIRN & STAN LANE
No. 2 contenders for AWA tag team title
Combined weight: 479 pounds

8—RONNIE GARVIN & JERRY OATES
National tag team champions
Combined weight: 478 pounds

9—DENNIS CONDREY & BOBBY EATON
Mid-South tag team champions
Combined weight: 483 pounds

10—CHAVO & HECTOR GUERRERO
U.S. tag team champions
Combined weight: 472 pounds

NWA and AWA ratings are compiled with the assistance of wrestlers, promoters, and reporters. "Most Popular" and "Most Hated" ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and on mail that comes to our offices.

MOST POPULAR

1—DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX

2—ANDRE THE GIANT
497, Grenoble, France

3—JIMMY VALIANT
251, New York, NY

4—HULK HOGAN
320, Venice Beach, CA

5—RICK MARTEL
236, Quebec City, Quebec

6—KERRY VON ERICH
251, Denton, TX

7—SGT. SLAUGHTER
310, Parris Island, SC

8—BILLY JACK
245, Portland, OR

9—RICK STEAMBOAT
238, Honolulu, HI

10—KEVIN VON ERICH
251, Denton, TX

MOST HATED

1—TED DiBIASE
247, Omaha, NE

2—TULLY BLANCHARD
235, San Antonio, TX

3—KEVIN SULLIVAN
235, Boston, MA

4—ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER
360, Sudan

5—BRUISER BRODY
284, Albuquerque, NM

6—IVAN KOLOFF
249, Moscow, Russia

7—RODDY PIPER
231, Scotland

8—ANGELO MOSCA
309, Caledou, Ontario

9—SUPERSTAR GRAHAM
260, Paradise Valley, AZ

10—JIM NEIDHARDT
248, Calgary, Alberta

NWA

World Champion:
RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN

1—WAHOO McDANIEL
260, Midland, TX

2—TED DiBIASE
247, Omaha, NE

3—HARLEY RACE
253, Kansas City, MO

4—ANGELO MOSCA
309, Caledou, Ontario

5—KERRY VON ERICH
251, Denton, TX

6—ANGELO MOSCA JR.
234, Caledou, Ontario

7—SCOTT McGHEE
220, Shipley, England

8—GINO HERNANDEZ
224, Houston, TX

9—CARLOS COLON
238, Santa Isabel, Puerto Rico

10—DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX

AWA

World Champion:
RICK MARTEL
236, Quebec City, Quebec

1—NICK BOCKWINKEL
245, Beverly Hills, CA

2—JUMBO TSURUTA
240, Tokyo, Japan

3—BRUISER BRODY
284, Albuquerque, NM

4—ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER
360, Sudan

5—STEVE KEIRN
240, Tampa, FL

6—STAN LANE
239, Del Ray, FL

7—JERRY LAWLER
234, Memphis, TN

8—GREG GAGNE
220, Robinsdale, MN

9—JIM BRUNZELL
225, Minneapolis, MN

10—TONY ATLAS
247, Roanoke, VA

CIAL
G RATINGS

For period ended August 1, 1984

Below are the ratings for the top regional wrestling areas of the country. These ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestlers, promoters, and reporters.

WWF

Champion:
HULK HOGAN
320, Venice Beach, CA

1—**TITO SANTANA** *245, Mission, TX*
2—**GREG VALENTINE** *243, Seattle, WA*
3—**JIMMY SNUKA** *250, Fiji Islands*
4—**SGT. SLAUGHTER** *310, Parris Island, SC*
5—**BOB BACKLUND** *242, Princeton, MN*
6—**COWBOY BOB ORTON** *245, Kansas City, KS*
7—**PAUL ORNDORFF** *253, Brandon, FL*
8—**THE IRON SHEIK** *262, Teheran, Iran*
9—**KEN PATERA** *256, Portland, OR*
10—**RODDY PIPER** *231, Scotland*

GEORGIA

1—**TED DiBIASE** *247, Omaha, NE*
2—**RONNIE GARVIN** *231, Montreal, Quebec*
3—**BRAD ARMSTRONG** *223, Marietta, GA*
4—**BUZZ SAWYER** *240, St. Petersburg, FL*
5—**JAKE ROBERTS** *243, Baton Rouge, LA*
6—**BILLY JACK** *245, Portland, OR*
7—**MR. WRESTLING II** *232, Atlanta, GA*
8—**TOMMY RICH** *238, Hendersonville, TN*
9—**TIM HORNER** *235, Morristown, TN*
10—**JERRY OATES** *247, Columbus, GA*

FLORIDA

1—**ANGELO MOSCA** *309, Caledou, Ontario*
2—**SCOTT McGHEE** *220, Shipley, England*
3—**BILLY JACK** *245, Portland, OR*
4—**SUPERSTAR GRAHAM** *260, Paradise Valley, AZ*
5—**DUSTY RHODES** *302, Austin, TX*
6—**MIKE ROTUNDO** *245, Syracuse, NY*
7—**BARRY WINDHAM** *230, Sweetwater, TX*
8—**KEVIN SULLIVAN** *235, Boston, MA*
9—**RON BASS** *285, Pampa, TX*
10—**DORY FUNK JR.** *244, Amarillo, TX*

MID-ATLANTIC

1—**WAHOO McDANIEL** *260, Midland, TX*
2—**ANGELO MOSCA JR.** *234, Caledou, Ontario*
3—**TULLY BLANCHARD** *235, San Antonio, TX*
4—**RICK STEAMBOAT** *238, Honolulu, HI*
5—**JUNKYARD DOG** *260, New Orleans, LA*
6—**JIMMY VALIANT** *251, New York, NY*
7—**MARK YOUNGBLOOD** *230, Amarillo, TX*
8—**BUZZ SAWYER** *240, St. Petersburg, FL*
9—**THE RENEGADE** *237, Amarillo, TX*
10—**EXOTIC ADRIAN STREET** *220, South Wales*

WORLD CLASS

1—**GINO HERNANDEZ** *224, Houston, TX*
2—**KERRY VON ERICH** *251, Denton, TX*
3—**KEVIN VON ERICH** *254, Denton, TX*
4—**CHRIS ADAMS** *225, Stratford on Avon, England*
5—**KILLER KHAN** *312, Mongolia*
6—**THE MISSING LINK** *273, parts unknown*
7—**MIKE VON ERICH** *220, Denton, TX*
8—**TERRY GORDY** *289, Chattanooga, TN*
9—**BUTCH REED** *249, Kansas City, MO*
10—**KELLY KINISKI** *242, Vancouver, BC*

MID-SOUTH

1—**MAGNUM T.A.** *245, Chesapeake, VA*
2—**BUTCH REED** *249, Kansas City, MO*
3—**HERCULES HERNANDEZ** *275, Tampa, FL*
4—**JUNKYARD DOG** *260, New Orleans, LA*
5—**TERRY TAYLOR** *219, Vero Beach, FL*
6—**TED DiBIASE** *247, Omaha, NE*
7—**HACKSAW DUGGAN** *280, New York, NY*
8—**STEVE WILLIAMS** *234, Tulsa, OK*
9—**KRUSHER KHRUSHCHEV** *303, Thief River Falls, MN*
10—**ERNIE LADD** *354, Houston, TX*

MID-SOUTHERN

1—**TOMMY RICH** *238, Hendersonville, TN*
2—**KING KONG BUNDY** *420, Atlantic City, NJ*
3—**JERRY LAWLER** *234, Memphis, TN*
4—**EDDIE GILBERT** *222, Lexington, TN*
5—**RICK RUDE** *233, Robinsdale, MN*
6—**RANDY SAVAGE** *235, Sarasota, FL*
7—**MASAO ITO** *247, Osaka, Japan*
8—**RICK MORTON** *215, Nashville, TN*
9—**ROBERT GIBSON** *217, Pensacola, FL*
10—**JIM NEIDHARDT** *248, Calgary, Alberta*

NORTHWEST

1—**RIP OLIVER** *245, Tampa, FL*
2—**PLAYBOY BUDDY ROSE** *245, Minneapolis, MN*
3—**BRETT SAWYER** *242, St. Petersburg, FL*
4—**MATT BORNE** *240, Milwaukie, OR*
5—**MR. EBONY** *240, parts unknown*
6—**TOM PRITCHARD** *220, Houston, TX*
7—**KEVIN KELLY** *265, Minneapolis,MN*
8—**MIKE MILLER** *260, Memphis, TN*
9—**DOUG SOMERS** *244, Minneapolis, MN*
10—**RON POPE** *265, Africa*

RATINGS ANALYSIS

Every month, this column will tell fans how we go about rating more than 150 wrestlers in 14 different categories. It is a behind-the-scenes look at the most important—and respected—ratings system in the sport. This column is vital reading for all wrestling fans.

Down but not out: AWA fans are happy to have **Greg Gagne** back in action following an injury suffered at the hands of **Bruiser Brody**. But those same fans may be puzzled to have seen that Gagne's status in the AWA ratings did not change during the weeks he was out of competition. His position has remained at number eight for several months.

This raises the larger question: What happens to the ratings status of an individual when he is injured?

Greg Gagne

The main consideration is the nature of the injury. If a wrestler suffers a severe injury, such as a broken leg or cracked rib, it is likely that he will be out of action for several months. In that case, the wrestler is removed from the ratings entirely.

Billy Jack

Other injuries are less severe. **Billy Jack** recently sustained a broken hand in an attack by **Superstar Graham**, but the nature of the injury was such that he only missed a few matches and was back in action after only a few days. In this case, the injury didn't become a factor in deciding Billy's standing in the Florida area.

Sprains and muscle tears all cause wrestlers a great deal of pain and suffering, but it's not likely that they will seriously affect a wrestler's schedule of matches, or his standing in the ratings.

When compiling the ratings each month, the ratings committee takes into consideration the nature of the injury of any wrestler who is out of action at the time the ratings meeting is held (usually, it's the day noted on the "For period ended . . ." designation on the top of the ratings page). Crucial to this consideration is a projection of how long the wrestler will be out of action based on the strength and stamina of the wrestler, and his projected recuperative powers.

Thus, in the case of Greg Gagne, it was determined that his injury would keep him out of action for a few matches—which it did—and that he would be back in action a few days later—which he was. As a result, his standing in the AWA—number eight—remained unchanged.

"Ratings Analysis" mailbag: From time to time we will select several letters that include your questions about our ratings system and answer them right here in "Ratings Analysis."

Brett Sawyer

From Howard Herman of Plainview, New York: "I've got to say that your ratings are the best! But one thing that I do not understand is that in your top 10 tag teams, every area in the United States is represented except the Pacific Northwest. I know you've had the Canadian and WWC tag teams listed in the past, but shouldn't the Northwest receive recognition for their tag teams?" We agree, Howard. In fact, we've been keeping a close eye on the Pacific Northwest lately, and we were prepared to include the team of **Brett Sawyer** and **Tom Pritchard** in this month's ratings. But Sawyer and Pritchard lost a crucial match—and the PNW tag team belts—to the team of **Mr. Ebony** and **Mike Miller**, and as a result have dropped on our list of top tag teams for ratings consideration.

From Jeff Spector of Chappaqua, New York: "I recently bought your August 1984 issue of *The Wrestler* and when I turned to the 'Official Wrestling Ratings,' I was both surprised and confused. I saw that this set of ratings was for the period ending April 25, 1984, but the confusion came when I looked at the tag team ratings. There in the number five spot were **Dick Murdoch** and **Adrian Adonis**, the new WWF tag team champions. This change was also documented in the 'What's Happening' section of the same issue. My question is: How did you know about this change back in late April when the title change, which took place on television, was not seen until May 26?" According to our files, the team of Adonis and Murdoch defeated former WWF tag team champions **Tony Atlas** and **Rocky Johnson** on April 17, 1984, during a taping of televised WWF wrestling in Hamburg, Pennsylvania. For reasons unknown to *The Wrestler*, WWF officials did not telecast that match for nearly six weeks.

The address for mail: We invite you to send us your comments on our ratings system. Perhaps your questions will be addressed in a future installment of "Ratings Analysis." Send all letters to: "Ratings Analysis" c/o *The Wrestler;* Box 48; Rockville Centre, NY 11571. □

YOUR LETTERS

(Continued from page 6)

DiBIASE'S A CRIMINAL

I can understand why Ted DiBiase is number one on your "most hated" list. That bum isn't a wrestler, he's a habitual criminal. He's a rulebreaking menace who has no place inside a wrestling ring, and on July 6, he tried to mess up the North American champion, Magnum T.A.!

Let me tell you, I had a smile on my face the size of Rhode Island when DiBiase got slaughtered. I laughed for a week!

DiBiase has a lot of nerve defying the NWA. We all saw what that geek did to Bob Armstrong. DiBiase should be suspended forever, if not longer, for his blatant rulebreaking.

J. HUNTER LEWIS
Lufkin, TX

WRESTLING NEEDS RICK

I'm a third generation wrestling fan. I was raised on the old champions: Abe Jacobs, Johnny Weaver, and so forth. But the bright young stars of today are the ones that really got me hung on the sport. I'm talking about Rick Steamboat.

The enthusiasm that stars like Rick Steamboat bring to the sport brings out the enthusiasm is fans like Abbey Abanathey.

(Continued on page 50)

AN EXCLUSIVE OFFER FROM PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED

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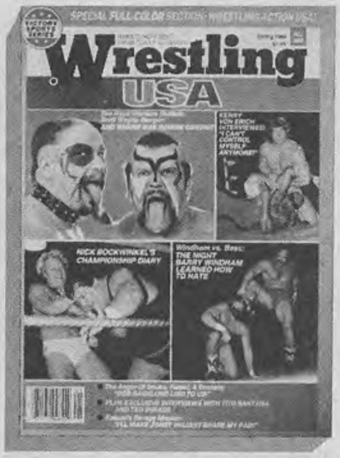
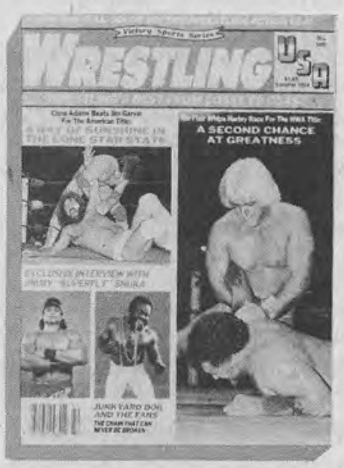


Spring 1984



Summer 1984

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YOUR LETTERS

(Continued from page 49)

I've just returned from Korea, and I'm glad I was there when Rick announced his retirement. I'm doubly glad he was back in the sport when I returned. Wrestling just wouldn't be the same without him. He's the best. I can't imagine what the sport would be like without Rick's talent and great personality. What wrestling needs is more talented young men like him.

ABBEY ABANATHEY
Andrews AFB, MD

CORNETTE'S A SISSY

I am writing this letter on behalf of the fans of the Rock 'n' Roll Express.

Jimmy Cornette, you are acting like a sissy! We don't appreciate you and your Midnight Express always cutting down the Rock 'n' Roll Express.

Jim Cornette knows that his Midnight Express cannot beat the Rock 'n' Roll Express without illegal assistance, writes Patty Trull.

They are extremely good wrestlers, and they deserve the Mid-South tag team belts back. You had no right putting Robert Gibson to sleep with ether and then taking the belts away from him and Rick Morton.

Jimmy Cornette, you are absolutely a jerk! Why don't you and your mighty Midnight Express just stop trying to kid yourselves and everyone

(Continued on page 52)

PREMIUM BACK ISSUES

The back issues available in this ad are the top of our line. All of these magazines contain a color section, and many were newsstand sellouts. They are priced at only $3.00 each, so don't delay, order today.

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This special collection of the most requested stories published in *The Wrestler* includes two fabulous color pinups in each issue.

Color pinups: Gilbert/Mascaras

FALL/83

Color pinups: Steamboat/Bravo

WINTER/83

Color pinups: Brody/Orton

SUMMER/84

PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED ANNUAL

Each collection includes a spectacular four page full-color section.

SPRING/83

SUMMER/83

WINTER/83

SPRING/84

SUMMER/84

FALL/84

WRESTLING SUPERSTARS

Each issue features a spectacular full-color centerfold Action Gallery of one of wrestling's hottest stars.

Color Action Gallery: Dusty Rhodes

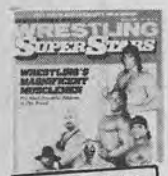
FALL/83

Color Action Gallery: Jimmy Snuka

WINTER/83

Color Action Gallery: Tommy Rich

SPRING/84



Color Action Gallery: Hulk Hogan

SUMMER/84

Color Action Gallery: Andre the Giant

FALL/84

WRESTLING 84

Printed entirely on slick paper, each magnificent issue is jam-packed with at least 16 pages of full-color photos!

Color features include: Snuka, Mascaras, Road Warriors, Abdullah

SPRING/84

Color features include: Valiant, Rhodes, Valentine, DiBiase

SUMMER/84

Color features include: Von Erich, Flair, Rich, Kabuki, Junkyard Dog

FALL/84

PREMIUM BACK ISSUES

WRESTLER ANNUAL

- ☐ Fall/83
- ☐ Winter/83
- ☐ Summer/84

PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED ANNUAL

- ☐ Spring/83
- ☐ Summer/83
- ☐ Winter/83
- ☐ Spring/84
- ☐ Summer/84
- ☐ Fall/84

WRESTLING SUPERSTARS

- ☐ Fall/83
- ☐ Winter/83
- ☐ Spring/84
- ☐ Summer/84
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WRESTLING 1984

- ☐ Spring/84
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YOUR LETTERS

(Continued from page 50)

The Great Kabuki hits Bugsy McGraw in the midsection with a back karate kick. Reader Robert Horne feels there is far too much martial arts being allowed in wrestling matches.

else. You know good and well that The Midnight Express couldn't beat the Rock 'n' Roll Express without your interference to help them.

And as for the Rock 'n' Roll Express: Go for it! Win the belts! Your fans will always be behind you. Keep up the good work.

PATTY TRULL
New Lilano, LA

TOO MUCH MARTIAL ARTS

I am very upset about the use of the martial arts in professional wrestling. Such men as Superstar Billy Graham, Mr. Fuji, The Great Kabuki, and Kendo Nagasaki use the martial arts in their wrestling matches.

I think that all of these men could still win matches without the martial arts. I think using martial arts is probably the worst thing a man can do inside the wrestling ring. It can ruin another man's face, not to mention his career.

I really think that something should be done about the use of martial arts in the ring.

ROBERT HORNE
Wakefield, MA

A PAIR OF TURKEYS

Randy Savage and Lanny Poffo are two of the most underhanded turkeys in professional wrestling. They couldn't win a match if their lives depended on it. Poffo runs around with his head in a tin can—anyone who does this must have mental problems. Sir Lanny Poffo, indeed!

They could be good, clean wrestlers if they tried, but I suppose they'll always be turkeys. It runs in the family!

SHERRY GICKINSON
Nortonville, KY ☐

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July 1980/COLOR STARSHOT: The Sheik. Cover story: Bruno Sammartino. PLUS: Wrestling II, Race, Ladd, Albano.

August 1980/COLOR STARSHOT: Koloff and Smirnoff. Cover story: Bruno vs. Zbyszko. PLUS: Idol, Von Erichs, Rhodes, Hogan.

October 1981/COLOR POSTER: Ted DiBiase. Cover story: Rhodes vs. Piper. PLUS: Backlund, Brody, Mascaras, Rich.

January 1982/COLOR POSTER: Magnificent Muraco. Cover story: Rhodes vs. Flair. PLUS: Hogan, Koloff, Von Erichs, Atlas, Zbyszko.

May 1982/COLOR POSTER: Ric Flair. Cover story: Wrestling II vs. Spoiler. PLUS: Mulligan Jr., Backlund, McDaniel, Piper.

June 1982/COLOR POSTER: Nick Bockwinkel. Cover story: Adonis & Ventura. PLUS: Snuka, Patera, Blassie, Flair.

August 1982/COLOR POSTER: Dino Bravo. Cover story: Steamboat & Rich. PLUS: Andre, Martel, Piper, Blassie.

September 1982/COLOR POSTER: Blackjack Mulligan Jr. Cover story: Tommy Rich. PLUS: Piper, Snuka, Von Erich, Martel.

October 1982/COLOR POSTER: Jerry Lawler. Cover story: Ric Flair. PLUS: Rhodes, Graham, Race, Funk Jr.

December 1982/COLOR POSTER: Rick Martel. Cover story: Hulk Hogan. PLUS: Von Erich, Orndorff, Reed, Albano.

January 1983/COLOR POSTER: Ken Patera. Cover story: Rick Steamboat. PLUS: Rich, Brody, Sullivan, Backlund.

February 1983/COLOR POSTER: Ivan Putski. Cover story: Rhodes vs. Garvin. PLUS: Snuka, Super Destroyer, Bockwinkel, Funk.

March 1983/COLOR POSTER: Andre The Giant. Cover photo: Bob Backlund. SPECIAL YEAR-END ISSUE! 1982—The Year In Review! PLUS: Results of the 1982 *PWI* Fan Poll!

April 1983/COLOR POSTER: Superstar Graham. Cover story: Mil Mascaras. PLUS: Valentine, Hansen, Orndorff, Hart.

June 1983/COLOR POSTER: Cowboy Bob Orton. Cover story: Rick Martel. PLUS: Brisco, Von Erich, Slaughter, Muraco.

JANUARY 1983

July 1983/COLOR POSTER: Ivan Koloff. Cover story: Tommy Rich. PLUS: Patera, Von Erich, Snuka, Geigel.

August 1983/COLOR POSTER: Larry Zbyszko. Cover story: Roddy Piper. PLUS: Sullivan, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Wrestling II.

September 1983/COLOR POSTER: Kevin Von Erich. Cover story: Bruno Samartino. PLUS: Martel, Junkyard Dog, Piper, Rich.

October 1983/COLOR POSTER: Junkyard Dog. Cover story: Tommy Rich. PLUS: Johnson, Adonis, Rhodes, Piper.

OCTOBER 1983

November 1983/COLOR POSTER: Roddy Piper. Cover story: Harley Race. PLUS: Santana, Mascaras, Ellering, Valiant, Race.

December 1983/COLOR POSTER: Wahoo McDaniel. Cover story: Dusty Rhodes. PLUS: Hayes, Steamboat, Hansen, DiBiase.

January 1984/COLOR POSTER: Harley Race. Cover story: Rick Martel. PLUS: Snuka, Freebirds, Dillon, Sawyer.

February 1984/COLOR POSTER: Jim Garvin & Sunshine. Cover story: Greg Valentine. PLUS: Super Destroyer, Race, Sawyer, Abdullah.

March 1984/SPECIAL FOUR-PAGE COLOR SECTION featuring Jimmy Snuka & Hulk Hogan, Brett Sawyer, Ric Flair vs. Harley Race. Cover photo: The Road Warriors. SPECIAL YEAR-END ISSUE—1983 In Review! Plus 1983 *PWI* Fan Poll results!

April 1984/COLOR POSTER: Rocky Johnson. Cover story: Ric Flair. PLUS: Hogan, Andre, Rich, Bundy.

May 1984/COLOR POSTER: Hacksaw Butch Reed. Cover story: Hulk Hogan. PLUS: Road Warriors, Fabulous Ones, Flair, Rotundo.

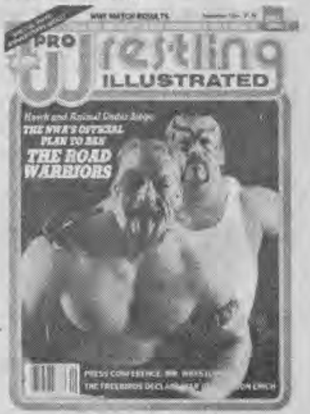
June 1984/COLOR POSTER: Dick Slater. Cover story: Ted DiBiase. PLUS: Wrestling II, Magnum T.A., Patera, One Man Gang, Hogan.

July 1984/COLOR POSTER: Paul Ellering. Cover story: Jimmy Valiant. PLUS: Junkyard Dog, Fabulous Ones, Gagne, Windham.

August 1984/COLOR POSTER: Stan Hansen. Cover story: Jerry Lawler. PLUS: Sullivan, Slaughter, Blackwell, Flair.

September 1984/COLOR POSTER: Hulk Hogan. Cover story: The Road Warriors. SPECIAL FIFTH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE—A Look Back At Wrestling In The *PWI* Years.

October 1984/COLOR POSTER: Billy Jack. Cover story: Kerry Von Erich. PLUS: Martel, Blanchard, Fabulous Blonds, Armstrong.



SEPTEMBER 1984

November 1984/COLOR POSTER: Rick Martel. Cover story: Sgt. Slaughter. PLUS: Von Erich, Road Warriors, Windham, Rotundo.

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- ☐ PWI/August 1980
- ☐ PWI/October 1981
- ☐ PWI/January 1982
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WHAT'S HAPPENING

(Continued from page 8)

made to bring Gordon Solie and the Georgia stars back to WTBS. A full examination of the situation will be printed in the December 1984 issue of our sister publication *Pro Wrestling Illustrated*, on sale September 25.

In what many people consider a major upset, Scott McGhee has taken the Florida title from Superstar Graham.

Scott McGhee is the new Florida heavyweight champion, having defeated **Superstar Billy Graham** for the title in Orlando, Florida. McGhee was losing for most of the match, but managed to put together an incredible effort and roll Graham up for an inside cradle to score the pin. Graham's manager, **Sir Oliver Humperdink**, is not worried about the loss: "Even Detroit, with the best record in major league baseball, loses a game once in a while," Humperdink rationalized. "So what if Graham lost the title? McGhee's reign won't last long, I'll make sure of that. Graham will have that belt back around his waist before that wimpy little limey knows what hit him."

The feud between **Jimmy Snuka** and **Roddy Piper** continues to rage out of control. In a recent match in Baltimore, Piper hit Snuka over the

Jim Brunzell cannot avoid the kneedropping Bruiser Brody.

head with a chair several times, leaving the "Superfly" lying outside the ring in a pool of his own blood . . . **Ted DiBiase** is the new National heavyweight champion, having beat **The Spoiler** for the title . . . **Bruiser Brody** and **Sheik Adnan Al-Kaissie** were fined $10,000 for interfering in a televised match between **Jim Brunzell** and **Rooster Griffin.**

Mike Miller and **Mr. Ebony** defeated **Brett Sawyer** and **Tom Pritchard** for the Pacific Northwest tag team belts . . . **The Breakdancers**, **Brickhouse Brown** and **Johnny Condorey**, are the hottest new tag team in Florida right now . . . Speaking of tag teams, look for coverage soon of **The Wolfpack**, a pair of behemoths who stand 6'8" and 7-feet tall, and weigh in at close to 300 pounds each!

Playboy Buddy Rose is back to being one of the most despised men in the sport following his sneak-attack of **Matt Borne** during a television interview. Rose beat Borne to a bloody pulp, then wiped his shoe across Borne's mouth. "It's been everyone against Buddy Rose," said Rose, "but now it's time for Buddy Rose to take over the Pacific Northwest!"

Playboy Buddy Rose has returned to his rulebreaking ways.

Following the incident in which **Hercules Hernandez** hit **Sonny King** with a 2 x 4 and dislocated his shoulder, Mid-South rules now stipulate that there will be a $10,000 fine to any man who brings a 2 x 4, a chain, or a tennis racket into the ring—**Jim Cornette** had better beware! . . . **Mr. Wrestling II**, **Buzz Sawyer**, and **Tommy Rich** are all headed back to the Georgia area . . . **The Road Warriors** recently made their Las Vegas debut by defeating **Steve O** and **Curt Hennig**. The AWA, by the way, is extremely popular in "The City That Never Sleeps"—when you crap out at the gaming tables, you can watch all the AWA action at the Showboat!

"Hercules" Kevin Kelly is being hailed in the Pacific Northwest as being in the mold of **Billy Jack**. The 265-pound Kelly also uses the full-nelson as a finishing hold, and recently threw two men over the top rope *simultaneously* to win a $2,500 battle royal. Now *that's* strength! . . . **Mr. Fuji** is feuding with **Tiger Chung Lee** . . . **Scott Armstrong**, the oldest son of **Bob Armstrong**, recently defeated **Tommy Gilbert**, the father of **Eddie Gilbert**, for the United States junior heavyweight title.

And that's what's happening. See you at the matches! □

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"The Influence of Exercise on Growth" revealed by U.S. Surgeon. (From the Journal of Experimental Medicine) A controlled group experiment.

"GAINS IN HEIGHT and weight as a result of experiments on boys from 12 to 17." Studies in Physical Development and Posture. (From U.S. Public Health Bulletin.)

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CORRESPONDENTS REPORTS

(Continued from page 10)

beat Jeff Sword . . . Doug Vines defeated Mike Sam Houston.

Senatobia, Mississippi ***(Correspondent—*****Chuck Morris):** In the main event at Northwest Mississippi Junior College, The Fabulous Ones, Steve Keirn and Stan Lane, returned to the Mid-Southern region and defeated the diabolical brother combination of "Sir" Lanny Poffo and Randy "Macho Man" Savage by disqualification.

The Fabulous Ones' quick tagging and scientific maneuvers kept Savage and Poffo off-balance from the outset. Keirn, however, got too close to the opposing corner and fell victim to some brutal double-teaming from the rulebreakers.

Savage began arguing with the referee, turning his back on Keirn, who lay face-down on the mat. Keirn's partner Lane ran into the ring, pulled his partner out of the ring, and took his place on the canvas. Savage returned to what he thought was a weary Keirn. When he picked the wrestler off the mat, however, he was surprised by the well-rested Lane.

At the end of the bout, all four men were in the ring. In the midst of the action, Savage threw Keirn over the top rope, and The Fab Ones were awarded the match by disqualification.

In other bouts, Rick Rude and Dutch Mantel wrestled to a no-contest . . . Masao Ito defeated Porkchop Cash . . . Johnny Wilhoit and Mark Batten drew with The Nightmares . . . Mid-Southern Spoiler defeated John King.

Upon their return to the Mid-Southern area, The Fabulous Ones, Steve Keirn and Stan Lane, defeated the brother combination of Lanny Poffo and Randy Savage by disqualification.

Baltimore, Maryland ***(Correspondent—*****Todd Baron):** The Baltimore Civic Center played host to the match that WWF fans have been demanding for months, a cage match between The Iron Sheik and Sgt. Slaughter.

Fueled by the memories of the punishment each had absorbed in previous battles, the two attacked each other ferociously. The use of a legitimate wrestling maneuver was rare. Brutality and illegal tactics predominated. Both wrestlers were bloodied almost from the start.

The action seesawed for most of the match. Slaughter dropped

Sgt. Slaughter, bloody and weakened, appears to be on the verge of losing his cage match to The Iron Sheik. Urged on by the fans, however, the Sergeant will regain his strength and go on to a popular victory.

Sheik to the canvas with shouldersmashes, punches, kicks, and the Slaughter cannon. Sheik used chops, chokes, and eye gouges to his advantage. Both men took advantage of the steel mesh of the cage, raking each other's heads against the lattice.

The Sheik removed his pointed-toe boot and began to pound Slaughter with it. To the fans' chants of "U.S.A., U.S.A.," Slaughter rallied back, took the boot away, and repeatedly slammed it into Sheik's head.

Slaughter then walked through the gate, leaving the Sheik a bloody mess in the ring.

In other bouts, Tito Santana defeated Cowboy Bob Orton by countout . . . Rocky Johnson defeated Greg Valentine by disqualification . . . Andre the Giant beat Dick Murdoch . . . Bob Backlund beat John Valiant . . . The Moondogs defeated Chief Jay Strongbow and Terry Daniels . . . Big John Studd defeated Tony Garea. □

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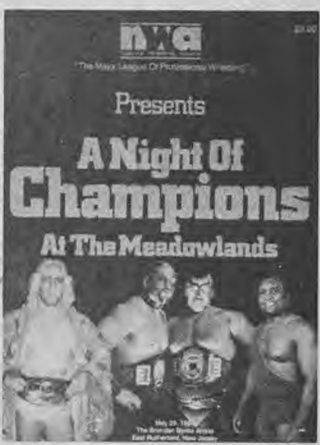

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YOU ASKED US

(Continued from page 12)

sides all that, the competition in Texas is great. I enjoyed working with the Von Erichs. You have to travel to different parts of the country to get experience against all different kinds of wrestlers, though, and that's why I'm in the Mid-Atlantic area. I'll be back soon, I promise."

***

Q: "My question is for Sheik Adnan Al-Kaissie: You're despicable, even for a manager of rulebreakers. The way you treated Crusher Blackwell was disgusting and I hope he gets all the revenge he wants on you. What do you plan to do to defend yourself against a 474-pound angry man?"—Ron Hartten, Mankato, MN

A: "I do not have to worry about that useless mound of flab," Al-Kaissie said. "And Blackwell would be foolish to fool with me. Bruiser Brody and Abdullah the Butcher are many times more vicious than he, and I'm ready to aim these two men in his direction. With a target like that, there's absolutely no way they can miss."

***

Q: For Rick Martel: "Now that you've been AWA champion for a while, is it what you thought it would be?"—Greg Stromberg, Little Rock, AR

A: "Well, for one thing, I think it's the toughest job anyone in professional sports can have," Martel said. "Sometimes, I'm defending the title four times a week and traveling from one side of North America to the other. On top of that I have to get my gym workouts in. Also, I like to keep up with the charitable work I've been doing for all these years. I expected the championship to entail a lot of work, and I was right. But I wouldn't give it up for the world."

***

Q: "I have a question for Butch Reed: When are you gonna figure out that you can't beat Junkyard Dog? Plain and simple, he's just a better wrestler than you are and not even your supposed 'brickhouse body' can help you win. It's impossible."—Luanne Jackson, Oklahoma City

Junkyard Dog dominates Butch Reed during a ghetto street fight. Luanne Jackson tells Reed that JYD is the superior wrestler.

A: "You fans are just stupid," Reed said, "and you prove it every time you open your mouths. You've gotta be kidding me. Junkyard Dog is a hound, and he can howl all he wants, but he's never gonna be the wrestler that I am. Let him bark up a tree. I'll cut down that tree and let it fall on his head." □

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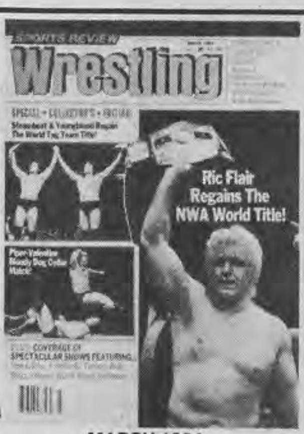

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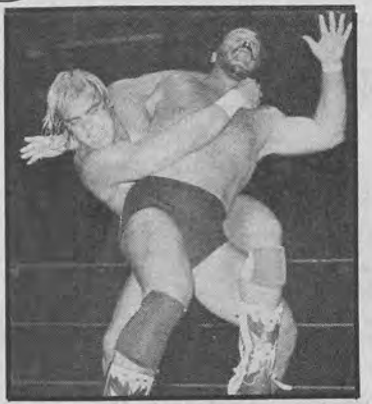

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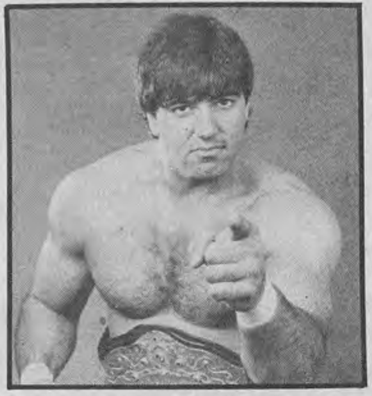

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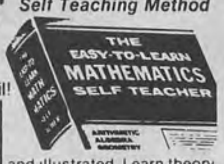

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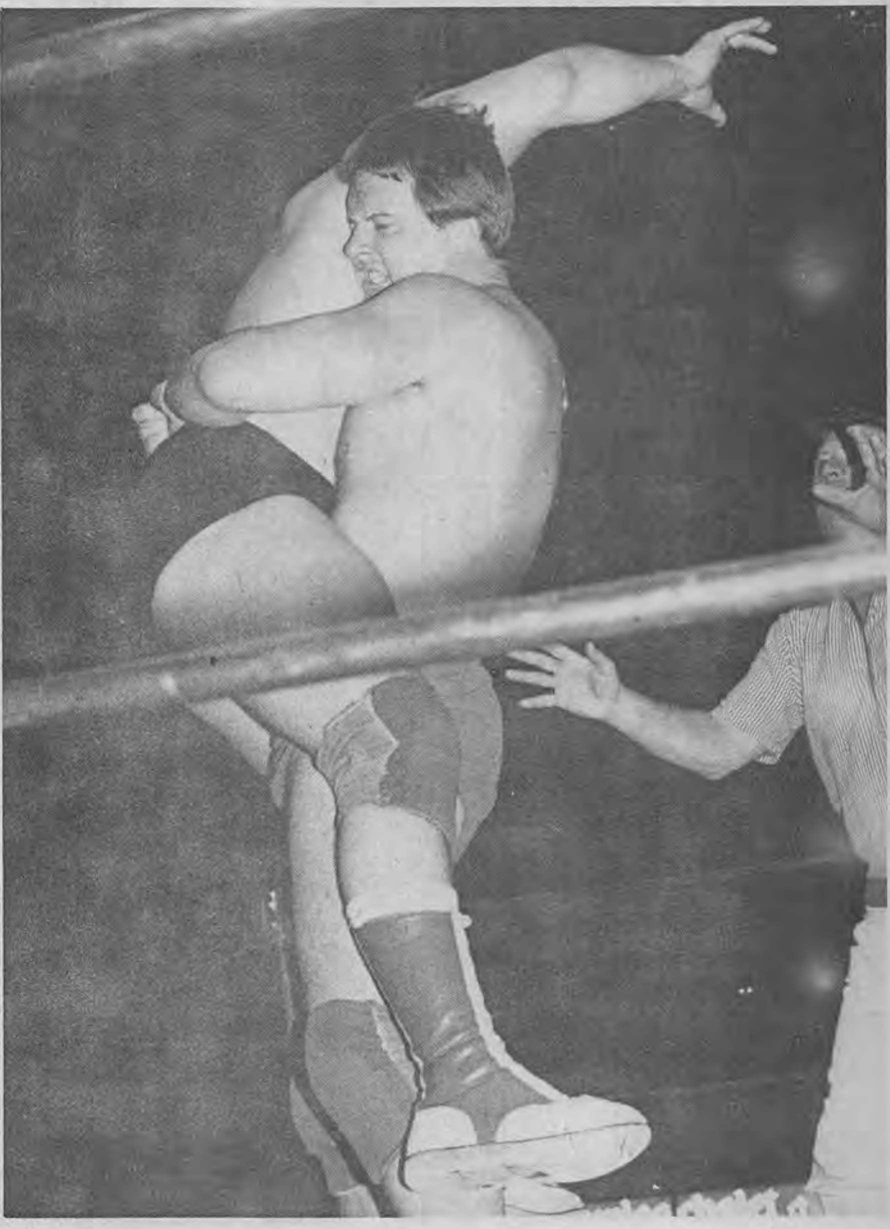
RODDY PIPER

(Continued from page 31)



Piper's convincing victory over Burke (above and opposite page) convinced him that he was ready to take on the top WWF contenders, and eventually Hogan.

"Since he's arrived in the WWF," Peters said, "Piper has thought of himself as being above the rules. This applies not only in the ring, but in the methods by which he gets everything accomplished."

According to Peters, Piper is the the process of carrying out a plan that will quickly put him into the top contender's slot in the WWF. "Piper hasn't earned the big matches, he's provoked them," Peters points out. "He has insulted his way into main events. Look what he did to Rocky Johnson and Jimmy Snuka. Both appear on 'Piper's Pit,' and both got verbally and physically assaulted. Of course, those segments initiated feuds against Johnson and Snuka."

Donald Renehan, as a specialist in sports medicine, has a keen interest in Piper's career. "You have to remember that Piper is a former Americas champion and a former United States champ," Renehan said. "He chose to take on the managerial role here. It wasn't something he was forced into, through injury or anything else.

"Now, Piper wants to get back in the ring," Renehan continued. "He's

rested, he's injury-free, and that obviously gives him an advantage over his opponents, opponents who, by the way, are practically hand-picked."

Renehan's point was a valid one. Piper has, in fact, been primarily wrestling only Johnson and Snuka.

"Johnson and Snuka are two very highly rated wrestlers," Senior Editor Bill Apter noted. "Usually, a wrestler will have to prove himself in preliminary matches before being matched with either of those two. Not Piper. He knows that if he could develop

feuds with Snuka and Johnson, the promoters, knowing the fans would flock to the arenas, would sign the matches quickly.

"Another advantage for Piper is that he only has to train for these two men, and interestingly, Johnson and Snuka are two very similar wrestlers. With a minimum of effort, Piper can do a great deal to look impressive against either of them."

Renehan added, "Piper is only wrestling two matches a week, three at the most. The other wrestlers are wrestling a full schedule of matches, sometimes four or five a week. Piper walks into the ring fresh. He's always at his physical peak."

He would have to be if he had any serious hopes of winning the WWF title. Hulk Hogan is a puzzle that nobody has been able to solve. □

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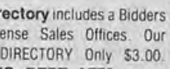

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BOBBY HEENAN

(Continued from page 33)

Saito grabs Von Raschke by the head and will fling him through the ropes and onto the floor.

"If the situation arose, would you allow your two wrestlers to battle each other for the right to wrestle for the title?" the writer asked.

"No comment," Heenan repeated.

"Mr. Heenan, you made a commitment a while ago, after selling the contract of Ken Patera to Sheik Al-Kaissie, to manage Bockwinkel exclusively," a young woman commented from the first row. "Is the signing of Saito a sign that you are planning to break ties with Nick Bockwinkel?"

Once again, Heenan refused to comment. "This press conference was called," he explained, "to announce my signing Mr. Saito. I am perfectly willing to answer any questions you might have about Saito's record or his plans for the future."

"Where is Nick Bockwinkel right now?" another journalist asked.

Exasperated by the continuation of that line of questioning, Heenan decided to answer. "Nick Bockwinkel is currently home in California taking care of some personal and business matters. I plan to be in touch with him toward the end of the week. Now if we might . . ."

"One more question Mr. Heenan," the woman in the front row said. "Are you telling us something by not telling us something?" She looked right into Heenan's eyes and Heenan stared right back.

"No comment."

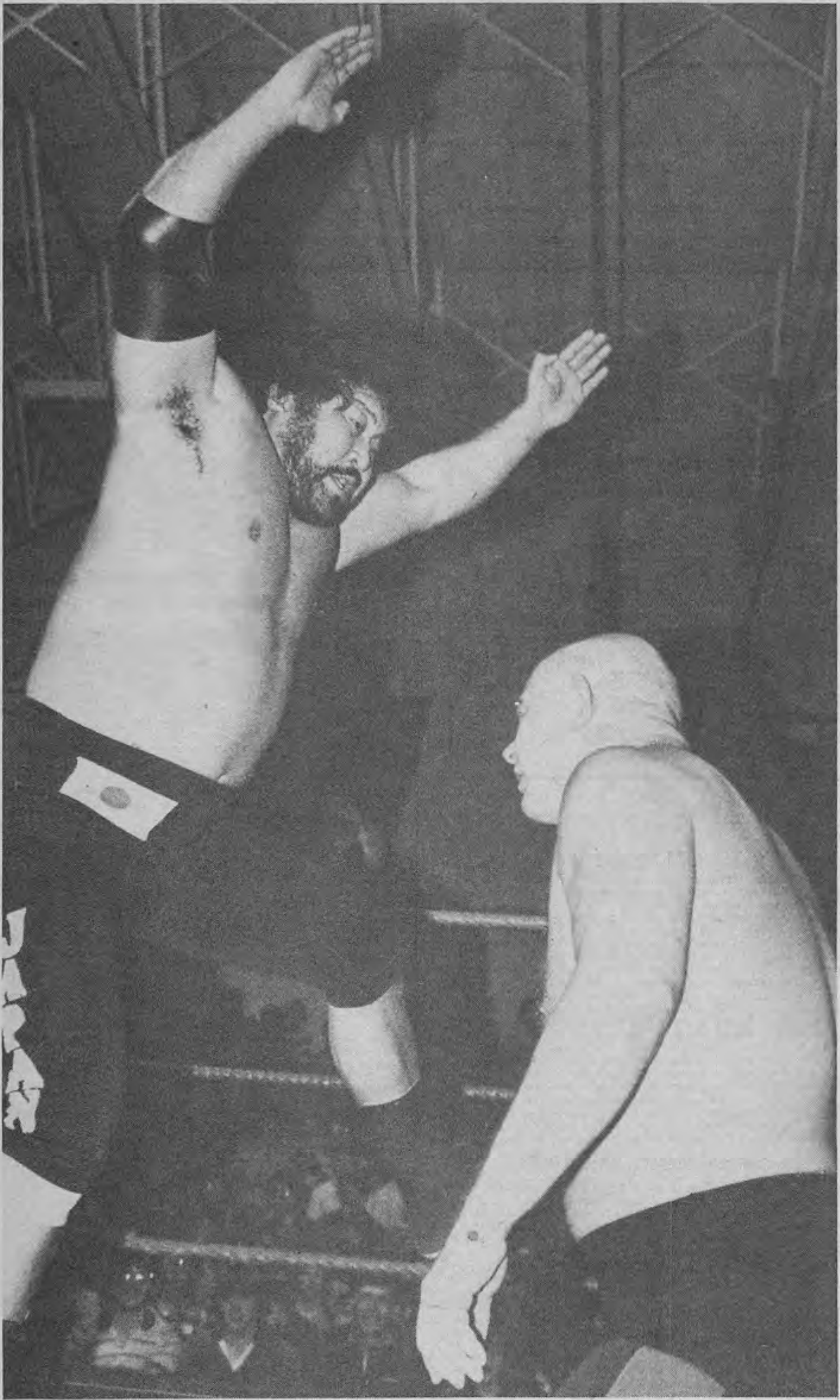
In the past, Heenan had always been direct and to the point on all matters involving Bockwinkel. The

Saito's deadly feet repeatedly smash into the Baron's back. The referee is helpless in his effort to control Saito.

three-time AWA World champ had made Heenan one of the most famous and respected managers in professional wrestling. Now, Heenan was scrambling to avoid the issue entirely. The reporters, most of whom had had long associations with the controversial manager, could sense that something was wrong in the Heenan camp.

It seemed as if they were always second-guessing the man, trying to stay in step with him. Suddenly, no one could understand "The Brain." What was he up to? It seemed inconceivable to them that Heenan would drop Bockwinkel. Their association goes back to the days when Bockwinkel and Ray Stevens held the AWA tag team belts in the early 1970s. Theirs is the longest running manager-wrestler relationship in the professional ranks today.

Yet, as Heenan posed smiling for



Saito's hands are aimed at Von Raschke's shoulder blades. Saito, who was among the most feared men in the sport before being managed by Heenan, is now being given a good shot at beating AWA champion Rick Martel.

the cameras with his new charge, there seemed to be a possibility that the unthinkable could be happening. After all, Heenan is well-known for his deviousness, ruthlessness, and a lack of regard for anyone's feelings but his own. In the past, these qualities had been directed at everyone but Bockwinkel. But a man possessing these traits, it would seem, could turn on anyone, even his closest ally.

For now, Heenan continued to smile and pose with Saito by his side. His eyes were bright with the prospect of success, and possibly another AWA championship. Behind those eyes, who knows what maneuvers The Brain was planning? Bobby Heenan has never been one to proceed without a plan. □

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MEET THE AUTHORS

GAVIN FROST, B.Sc., Ph.D., D.D., is Archbishop of the Church of Wicca, New Bern, North Carolina with national headquarters in Salem, Missouri, branches in several states and worldwide membership. He is Marshal of the Gold Star of England, with the right to wear the Saffron Robe and one of the very few Witches in the Western Hemisphere privileged to wear the authentic mark of initiation on his wrist. Although descended from a long line of mystics and scholars, and formerly a Vice-President and Director of International Operations for major aerospace companies, he prefers to be thought of as a humble teacher.

Mrs. YVONNE FROST, A.A., D.D., with her husband Gavin Frost, devotes her time to giving private instruction and publishing *Survival*, the newsletter of the Church of Wicca, of which she is a Bishop.

Articles by or about Gavin and Yvonne Frost have appeared in such national publications as *Midnight* and the *National Enquirer*.

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• **THE WITCH'S MONEY MAGNET!**—You'll see how to magnetize a dollar bill so that it multiples! All you need to make your own Witch's Money Magnet is a dollar bill, a green candle, and the words on page 38. Once you do this, your dollar will double and keep doubling! You'll enjoy glittering luxuries, and start living like a millionaire, as Witches do!

• **THE WITCH'S BLACK MIRROR!**—Just as your TV set has been called your "window on the world," so the Black Mirror is your "window on the psychic world"—the world of the unknown. Making your own personal Black Mirror takes only a few moments and can open the way to unguessable visions. All you need is a bowl of water, some ink, and the chant on page 23. Suddenly you will see scenes from other places and times, or any scene you wish to see!

PROGRESS BOOKS, LTD.
3200 Lawson Blvd., P.O. Box 903, Oceanside, N.Y. 11572

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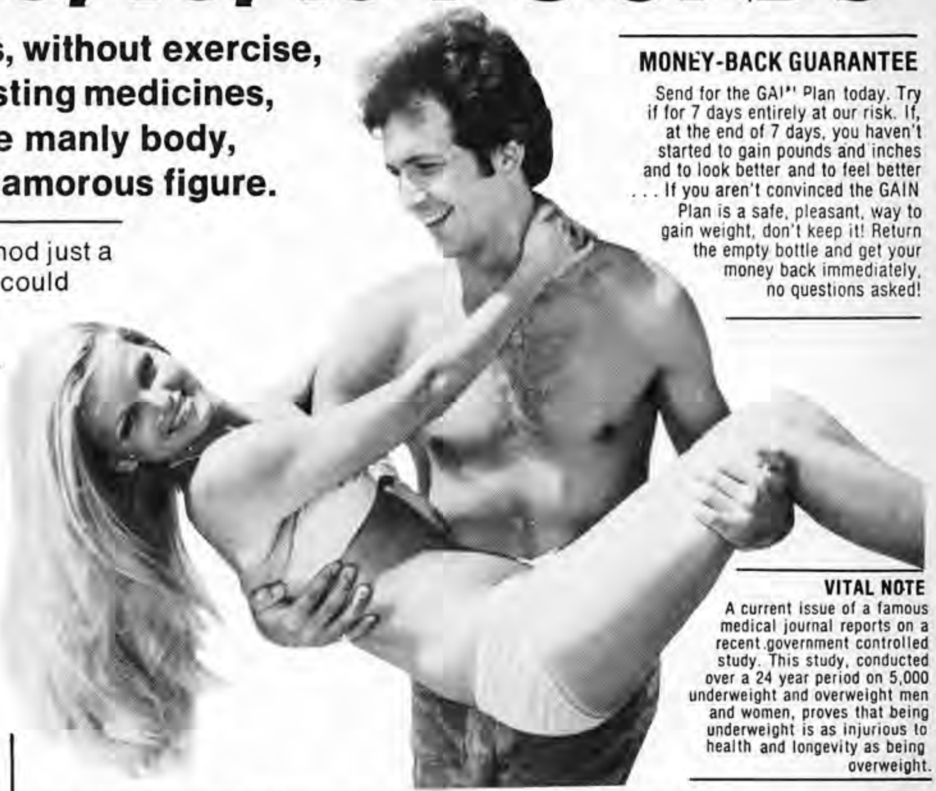
Now, Even If You Have Been Thin For Years, You Can

GAIN UP TO 5, 10, 15 POUNDS

without dangerous drugs, without exercise, without unpleasant tasting medicines, MEN—an impressive manly body, WOMEN—a curvier, glamorous figure.

If you had started this amazing method just a few short weeks ago, right now you could be up to 5, 10, even 15 pounds heavier or more!



MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

Send for the GAI*' Plan today. Try if for 7 days entirely at our risk. If, at the end of 7 days, you haven't started to gain pounds and inches and to look better and to feel better . . . If you aren't convinced the GAIN Plan is a safe, pleasant, way to gain weight, don't keep it! Return the empty bottle and get your money back immediately, no questions asked!

VITAL NOTE

A current issue of a famous medical journal reports on a recent government controlled study. This study, conducted over a 24 year period on 5,000 underweight and overweight men and women, proves that being underweight is as injurious to health and longevity as being overweight.

At last, no matter what you have tried, no matter what you have done, if you are a normally healthy person, you can gain up to 5, 10, 15 pounds or more safely, surely, pleasantly, and that's a guaranteed money-back fact.

Yes now, even if you have been thin for years, you can have the fuller, more attractive body you have always wanted without dangerous drugs, without heart-straining exercise, without unpleasant tasting medicines!

This exciting method is easy, pleasant, and medically sound beyond a shadow of a doubt, and your own Doctor could tell you the same thing.

HERE'S ALL YOU DO

Before meals, or whenever you feel like it, you take delicious, chewable, nutritionally fortified GAIN tablets and that's it! No other medication to take. Nothing difficult or unpleasant to do, and without even being aware of it, a wonderfully exciting change takes place.

Those high-calorie GAIN tablets are rich in body-building materials! They not only add weight themselves, but they sharpen your appetite! You look forward to mealtimes, and without even realizing it, you start to eat more and almost immediately the weight gaining process begins!

As you follow your GAIN Plan which includes nutritional high calorie menus. You add pounds and inches to your arms, legs, chest, hips, everywhere. You'll be amazed at the fantastic transformation that occurs . . . as thin, unattractive areas start to develop into new magnetic appeal. You'll be thrilled to discover that as you gain weight you will have more pep and energy for all the wonderful things in life!

THINK OF WHAT THIS CAN MEAN TO YOU

If you are one of those unfortunate people who can't wear all the new high style clothes you want to wear . . . if you are ashamed of the way you look in a bathing suit . . . embarrassed because your legs are too thin and spindly . . . your chest is too flat . . . your arms aren't the full, rounded limbs they were meant to be . . . If you long for a more attractive-looking body, the safe, pleasant GAIN Plan can be the answer to your prayers!

Yes, now, with the GAIN Plan to help, it's so easy, so pleasant to add pounds and inches of firm, attractive flesh . . . so full-filling to feel better, stronger, more vital and alive! But don't take our word for it. Prove it to yourself at our risk!

If you sincerely want to gain weight, and to look better and feel better as a result,

HERE IS OUR OFFER . . .

We honestly believe the GAIN Plan to be the finest and most effective product of its type sold anywhere in the world today, and to prove our confidence, we are backing that statement up with this honest, straight-forward offer . . .

Try the fabulous new GAIN Plan in your own home at our risk. Subject it to any test you like. Weigh yourself before you start. Weigh yourself later. If you haven't started to see substantial weight gain within 7 days, and if you don't feel better and look better as a result, or, if you are not completely satisfied for any reason, PAY NOTHING! It's just as simple as that.

If you are in doubt . . . even if you think nothing can possibly help you, for the sake of your appearance, and your happiness, at least try it! If the GAIN Plan works the way we know it will, you'll agree it is worth the few dollars it cost.

On the other hand, if it doesn't work the way you expected, it costs you nothing, and a least you have had the satisfaction of trying it at our expense.

What could be fairer than that? The next move is up to you. Once and for all, determine to do something about your underweight! We know you'll be happy you did.

SKINNY MEN AND WOMEN ARE NOT ATTRACTIVE

. . . a skinny, scrawny body is no asset in social or business life. Give the GAIN Plan a chance to help build you up and put firm flesh on you.

GAIN IS SAFE

GAIN is not a dangerous drug, medicine or a fishy-tasting oil. It is made of safe, pure ingredients, contains nothing which could possibly harm you, and may even be taken with complete safety by children.

MAIL NO-RISK COUPON TODAY

GAIN PRODUCTS CORP. Dept G931
Box 2346, Carbondale, Ill. 62901

Please send my package of GAIN Plan immediately with the understanding that if I am not satisfied, I may have my money back, no questions asked.

☐ One GAIN PLAN for $9.98
☐ SAVE $2.00! Order 2 for $17.96
☐ SAVE $5.00! Order 3 for $25.00
Enclosed is $________

☐ cash, ☐ check or ☐ money order

NAME ________ please print
ADDRESS ________
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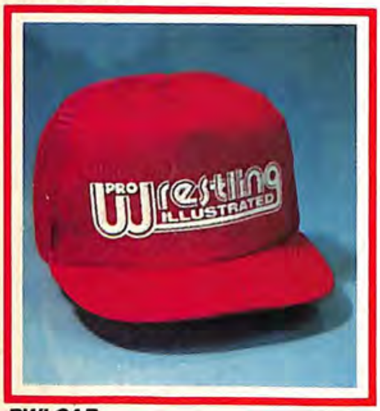
PWI T-SHIRT



PWI CAP

PWI SKYFLYER

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THE PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED CAP

The perfect companion to the *PWI* T-shirt. A bright crimson-red hat emblazoned with a white *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* logo in unique raised lettering for a spectacular three-dimensional look and feel. Be the first fan in your neighborhood to wear one! Top-quality, long-wearing—one size fits all. Only $7.00.

THE PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED "SKYFLYER"

Get ready for summer fun the whole year-round with the only flying disc to bear the official *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* name. A bright red disc with yellow and white lettering, the *PWI* "Skyflyer" is constructed of sturdy plastic for years of enjoyment. A full 9¼ inches in diameter. Only $5.00

THE PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED BUMPER STICKER

The *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* logo is reproduced in dynamic red on a bright yellow background. This giant sticker (3¾ inches by 15 inches) is specially made of high-quality vinyl for easy application and removal. A guaranteed eye-catcher wherever you place it! Only $2.00.

THE PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED BUTTON

Wear the *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* button proudly on your shirt, jacket, or hat to show the world you love pro wrestling. A sturdy button with safety pin backing, the official *PWI* button is oblong in shape and measures 1¾ inches by 2¾ inches. Dynamic red logo on bright yellow background. Only $1.00.

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PWI BUMPER STICKER

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PWI SKYFLYER	$5.00 ea.		
PWI BUMPER STICKER	$2.00 ea.		
PWI BUTTON	$1.00 ea.		
PWI DELUXE PACKAGE	$19.95 ea.		
		TOTAL AMOUNT	

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